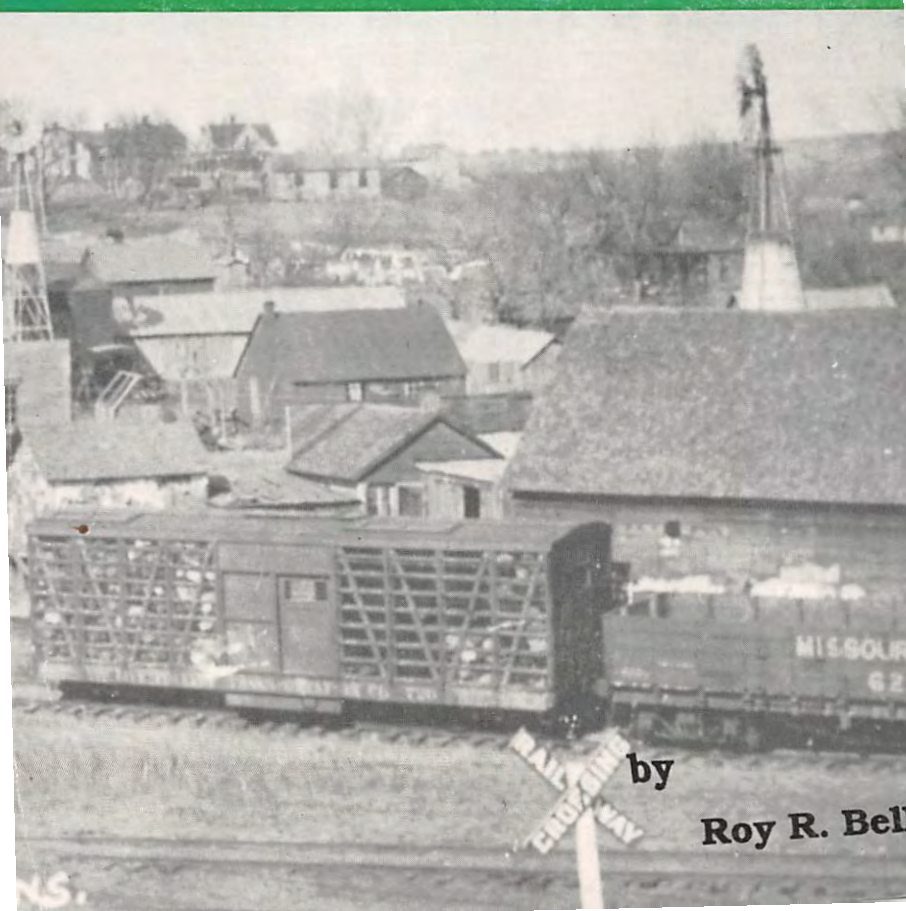


GOFF:

The First Hundred Years



by

Roy R. Bell

Dedication

*This book is dedicated to our dear friend,
the late Mary Powell.*



MARY TAYLOR POWELL

In the fall of 1882, Bayard Taylor bought 160 acres west of Goff. Prairie hay was waving over the whole farm and it had a small two-room house. The only road was a wagon trail out to the south a half mile or north down across the creek. The prairie hay was waist high. Neighbors were scarce, the house to the southwest was the Connal farm, and H.H. Hittle to the east and on adjoining farms, Johnson's to the south. Prairie hay was to be had for the cutting and putting it up.

Bayard was married in Netawaka in July 1883. In April 1889, a daughter, Mary Alice, was born to them. Mary grew up there and married Leonard Powell and lived one half mile west. They moved to the home place when Mary's father, Bayard Taylor, died. Mary lived there, known as "Vinegar Hill" the rest of her long life.

In 1927, a survey was made for Highway Nine going across the farm northeast to southwest. Quote from Mary Powell, "a blacktop much traveled hi-way. From 1882, a lone gray house in the middle of the section to 1966 with the buzz of the cars and

trucks shows the progress over the years."

After her husband passed away in 1963, I being a rural mail carrier, took her mail up the lane to her house every day six days a week for the next eleven years. Since her house was the last stop on my route, I would visit with her or help her with little chores. Many times I'd just stop and have a cup of coffee as we only carried mail for a half day back then. I came to know Mary, probably a little differently than most people knew her as we would visit about many things. She was the first person to interest me in the history of this area and she came to be a very dear friend. I remember one time in particular, when I went out in the afternoon, with my four wheel drive vehicle, and took her over east in the pasture. We were cutting cedar trees and she wanted to see if she could locate a rock there that she had carved her name on when herding cattle there as a child. We either never found the right rock or time had weathered away the names on it.

It was her foresight to write and research some of the early history, which I have used extensively, that made this history possible.

Also her cousin and children, Esther Brockman, Barbara and Bill, who preserved her works and made them available to me after Mary's death, helped me tremendously.

Quote from Mary Powell's notes: "For the past is an integral part of the present and future and to erase it is to leave an incomplete pattern.

"Therefore it colors our presents and influences our future and I believe we can look back upon it with tranquility."

ABOUT THE AUTHOR



Roy and Patsy Bell

Roy R. Bell was born on a farm four and one half miles northeast of Goff, the fifth child of Everton A. and Iva Hulda Bell.

He attended the one room country school, Morning Star, which was located a quarter of a mile east of the home. He was graduated from Goff High School in 1949. He was inducted into the Army in January 1952 and is a combat veteran of the Korean war, serving as a machine gunner in the infantry.

He was married to Patsy I. Richard on her parent's farm northeast of town on May 16, 1954. They had three children, Cynthia, who died in infancy, Ricky and Janet.

He was appointed a rural mail carrier in 1958 and became Postmaster of Goff in 1974. He has lived in the Goff community his entire life.

FOREWORD

For some time I have felt that something should be put down on paper about our town to be preserved so that it would not be lost by time. So much has already escaped us and that part that is gone is gone forever. It has been at the urging of a number of people that finally convinced me to take on the task. My intentions are only to preserve that information which I have been able to obtain.

This historical research has been prepared for your pleasure, not as a history text book, nor do we claim credit for all the material found in this book. The information has been gathered from many sources, newspapers of Nemaha County, the Census Bureau, Kansas Historical Society, *Kansas History 1912* by Frank Blackmar, The *Goff Advance* newspaper, U.S. Postal Service Library and older people of the community who were able to remember some of the early history. All the advertisements shown appeared in the *Goff Advance*. Hoping that each one who reads this may find enjoyment in some part, regretting that some events and names have been omitted for the lack of the knowledge of whereabouts.

I wish to thank the many who furnished pictures and other information for this writing as I feel that it is impossible to name them all. I do, however, wish to mention the last editor of the *Goff Advance* Newspaper, Ray T. Ingalls, who had the foresight to bind the editor's copies from 1913 to 1943 and his wife, Mrs. Florence "Mickey" Ingalls, for allowing me the use of them. I would also

like to thank my brother and his wife, Gary and Carolyn Bell of Bell Graphics, the printers of this book, who helped with the arrangement and setting of this material. It was their knowledge and guidance and the assistance and understanding of my dear wife, Patsy, that made putting these writings into book form possible.

HOW 'GOFF' CAME TO BE

The following article appeared in the *Goff Advance* on November 1, 1923.

The man who might well be termed "The Father of Goff" visited here last Thursday afternoon. Mr. George C. Stahl, of 1043 Spitzer Bldg., Toledo, Ohio, who has been a real estate dealer in that city for half a century, recalled vividly days of the early '70s, when his transaction in Goff community real estate were making history. Mr. Stahl was responsible for the City of Goff being located where it is. Here's the story.

As a boy, Mr. Stahl lived at Fremont, Iowa. His father traded a business lot in Fremont to a surveyor by the name of Clapp, for the east half of section 35, which includes the present City of Goff. The elder Stahl was a friend of Senator Pomery of Muscotah and through him met Mr. Clapp, who had acquired the land as a fee for plotting the sections for the government. The elder Stahl sold the northwest quarter to his son in 1870 for \$400. John C. Stahl sold his brother a half interest later for \$1200. Major Downs, superintendent of the Central Branch, then a Union Pacific line, running as far west as Waterville, had an offer to the elder Stahl to locate a station on his land here, build a depot and plot a town if Mr. Stahl would deed his company each alternating two lots in the 80 acre townsite. The elder Stahl passed the proposition on to his son. In the meantime land values had increased and Geo. C. Stahl believed that half of eighty acres was sufficient remuneration to the railroad for locating a town here. In 1871, Mr. Stahl came west and located on his land. For six months during '71, he ran a store here, and in looking over the town last week, as near as he could locate the spot was where Nick Henery's barn is now located. *(Author's Note: This would be*

at the far west end of the present Third Street.) In the meantime, Major Downs had held to his original offer for half of an eighty or nothing, and had located the railroad station at Sother, a mile east on what is now the Baker farm, the east half of the southeast quarter of section 36. Mr. Stahl had to haul his goods from there to his store. One day the storekeeper walked over to the courthouse at Seneca and asked to see the plat book of Nemaha County. Land that had been sold had the name of the owner written across the tract in ink. The eighty where the station of Sother was located had the name of Smith written across it in pencil. County Treasurer Hibbard said that the land was sold, but no money had been paid on it. The law then was that the man who first tendered the money was the purchaser. With the aid of the County Attorney, Mr. Stahl convinced the Treasurer that he was compelled to issue him a patent deed for the land and laid out \$574.90 in cash for the land. Smith was station agent for the U.P. at Sother, and was buying the eighty for his company. Stahl went from Seneca to Marysville, down to Waterville and back east as far as Muscotah, where he stopped to visit with his friend Senator Pomeroy. In the meantime the railroad company had employed an attorney, who caught up with Mr. Stahl at Muscotah and endeavored to talk him out of his patent deed to the eighty, including the station at Sother, and finally offered him a good sum. Mr. Stahl refused to sell at any price.

After six months, Mr. Stahl tired of running his store and went west to enjoy a buffalo hunt before returning east. He went by rail to Waterville, and from there by stage a hundred miles west to Cawker City. Stage competition was keen in those days. The usual charge was 10¢ a mile, \$10 for the trip to Cawker City. Two rival stage drivers bid on Mr. Stahl until he got an offer of \$3 for a round trip which he promptly accepted, but the driver never did show up to give him the return trip.

For a few years, Major Downs held out and finally in 1876 he wired Mr. Stahl that he accepted his offer of half of eighty acres. Mr. Stahl was in Connecticut on business when he

received the wire, and as soon as he could, came west. An agreement was drawn up whereby the Major Downs for the railroad agreed to locate the present Station of Goff, build a depot to cost not less than \$1,000, and a hotel. The Hotel is the front part of the present Commercial Hotel, according to Mr. Stahl. It was the next year in 1877 before the town was platted and buildings completed. Then came the naming of the new station. Mr. Stahl wanted to call it Stallville, but Major Downs said he had a friend in Boston by the name of Goff, who would finance a colony of good citizens from there into the new territory if the town was named after him. This was finally agreed, but Mr. Goff failed to live up to his end of the agreement. Mr. Stahl wants it understood that the original name was Goff, not Goffs as the Missouri Pacific use on all their records.

On his visit last week, Mr. Stahl had the original patent for the eighty in section 36 issued while James H. Harvey was governor of Kansas, also the original deed for the west half of section 35, issued to his parents. Mr. Stahl's sister, Mary B. Stahl, was the wife of D.M. Younkman, old settler of this community, whose death occurred in Tulsa, Oklahoma, the first of the month. Mr. Stahl continued his holdings in Goff for many years, but sold the last a number of years ago.

Author's note: Mr. Stahl's mention of the Commercial Hotel is in conflict with the information which I have which shows the Depot Hotel as being the first built. Possibly since he hadn't lived here for some time and the Depot Hotel was torn down before he returned in 1923, he took it for granted that it was part of the Commercial Hotel.

Goff Advance, November 1, 1923

Goff was plotted on February 16, 1882 and recorded on March 7, 1882 at 4:00 p.m. It became incorporated on March 8, 1894. Boyer's Addition, consisting of three blocks, was added on April 28, 1892 and Denton's Addition, consisting of two blocks, was added on May 7, 1895.

Though some historians claim that Goff reached a population of 700, the federal census shows the following populations: 1900 - 365; 1910 - 422; 1920 - 398; 1930 - 437; 1940 - 339; 1950 - 315; 1960 - 259; 1970 - 207; 1980 - 196.

The town was recorded under the name of "Goffs" in 1882 and was changed to "Goff" in 1894, the same year that it was incorporated.

The following article appeared in the *Goff Advance* on March 2, 1939.

VOLUME XLVII

Goff Home

"GOFF" INSTEAD OF "STAHLVILLE"

Principal Founder of Goff Gives Version of Naming Town.

The Goff Advance received a letter this week from Geo. C. Stahl, 93 years of age, which puts a little different light on the naming of Goff than had formerly been the belief. It has always been thought that Mr. Goff, after whom this town was named, was an official of the Union Pacific, which located the town here when they built the railroad that is now the Northern Kansas Division of the Missouri Pacific in the 70's.

Mr. Stahl is making his home with his son, Wm. F. Stahl, bond and insurance agent in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Writing for copies of The Advance, he says in part: -

"I can not see to read much as I am going on 93 years of age. I owned the land that Goff is located on and got the railroad company to put the

town there in 1877 and was going to call it Stahlville, but Major Downs said if I would let him name it he had a party who would bring a colony of people from Boston and start the town in good shape. He said to call it Goff, after the man who would bring the people, so I consented. But he lied. No one from Boston came. I could tell you a lot but can not write it."

So that's another one for the scrap book of folks who are keeping data on the early day history of Goff.

:-

Since I can find no reference of Mr. Edward Goff ever being

here, the article leads me to believe that he may never, in fact, ever visited the town that was named after him.

THE CITY OF GOFF



Second Street looking west showing the Commercial Hotel and Home State Bank. Taken in 1901 or 1902.

Nestled in the palestine hills of the southern part of Nemaha County, which is in the northern tier of counties and the third county from the east border of the state of Kansas, we find the town of Goff on Spring Creek in Harrison Township. Just to the west of Goff is the highest point on the railroad out of Atchison. When the rain drops fall on that point they are divided into four parts, running east to Spring Creek, north into the Nemaha River, and south and west into the Vermillion and Soldier Creeks.

The northwest quarter of section 35, township 4, range 13 of Harrison township, the section in which Goff is laid out, was granted by U.S. patent to Thornton Clapp on March 5, 1863. During the same year was a survey for a railroad out of Atchison by the Union Pacific line. George C. Stahl acquired the quarter section from his father, who had acquired it from Clapp, for \$400. The name of "Goff" was for a Mr. Edward H. Goff, a friend of Major Downs, superintendent of the Central Branch (see *How*

Goff Came To Be).

The streets and lots were laid out about 1878. Lots 9 & 10, across from the present elevator, block 13, were given to Chandler Abbott to build a hotel which was called the Depot Hotel. This was the first building built after the depot. Then part of the streets were graded and Goff began to take form. It was to be a "Railroad Town".

Tom Berridge built a two story building on the west side of Stahl, in block 12, for a store, hardware and lumberyard. Stahl Street, named after George Stahl, was the main street of town. The Berridge family lived upstairs and it was here that Cora Berridge Archer was born. She was the first girl to be born in Goff. Goff Dean, born to the Deans of Deanville, was the first child born in Goff. Deanville was the name given to the first railroad stop here that was at the far west end of Third Street.

Later Mr. Berridge sold his store to Uncle Billy, as he was called, McConnell. Mr. Berridge then built a house across Spring Creek south of town known as Brooklyn. He then sold this house and land to John Denton who, with the help of the community, laid out a race track and ball diamond to the southeast of the Denton house. Horse races were numerous and attendance was from a broad territory. Silas Bontrager was one of the last jockeys. Other jockeys were Jimmie Worcester, Jim Ruth and others.

It was then that the Burget brothers, four of them, came to town from Nebraska. They had hi-class racing horses. While here Bill and Ki met the Baker girls, married and stayed here. Under the judges stand at the race track was a gambling game called "chuck of luck". This was in the 1880s and it was not a habit for the women to attend the races as it was a man's world. After the races many a fist fight broke out and this is probably where Judge Donaldson with his high topped boots, played an important part in keeping the peace.

In 1880, E.B. Abbott followed his brother here from Canada. That same year the Abbott building was built on the east of Stahl Street north of the present quonset building on block 13, lots 13

and 14. This was a two story with a stairway on the outside, south side. This housed the E.B. Abbott's general store. J.W. Taylor and son bought the store then traded it to C.C. Abbott for the hotel. Therefore C. C. Abbott had a general store in Goff for many years. Quote from the *Goff Racket* news item 1886, "C.C. Abbott's a sarcastic cuss haint he".

There was a little building on the corner of Stahl and Second

Saturday Night In Goff

Picture Show in the City Building

starting at 8:00 P. M.

consisting of a feature and short subjects

Admission to all but 10c

Street that housed the Boyer drug store owned by Dr. Boyer. It was his father who owned the land that is now known as

Boyer's Addition on the north edge of town. Mary Powell states that this was the first drug store in town and the *Goff Advance* states that Charles Yonkman had a drug store on the west side of Stahl Street south of the present fire station in 1882 or 1883.

In 1882, E.B. Abbott built a house on the west side of Stahl in block 11, lot 2. Here Chauncey Abbott was born and that was a long way up the hill.

Ed High had a hay barn about where the present liquor store is on block 14, lot 5 and 6. Hay business was the leading business and many cars of baled prairie hay were shipped from Goff.

In 1883, a lodge of the Sons of Temperence was organized. They also had an "Anti Horse Thief" Association.

On May 27, 1885, a cyclone which came from the southwest damaged the depot and completely destroyed the Gard Pickett's two story house which stood where the present Henry Brothers station is on lot 2 of block 9. It also destroyed Moyer's new house. Judge Donaldson's house was blown off its foundation and stood in that position for many years. The lumber from Tom Berridge's lumberyard, on block 10, lot 8, was scattered all over

the hill east of town. One man was killed, and as George Conville was going to the blacksmith shop he was blown down, breaking his hip. Dr. Wheeler, who lived in the country a mile and a half north of the cemetery, set Conville's hip, and the news item reports "doing a very poor job of it". After this storm, caves



Looking up Stahl Street from the south about 1910

became very popular and many were built in Goff.

From the records the winter of 1886-87 was a very severe one. The earth was frozen to a depth of three feet. Ice men were putting up thick ice and the thermometer stood at zero day after day. One large ice house stood southeast of town and another east of the railroad track near the far west end of Third Street. Ice was cut from Spring Creek and packed in sawdust and stored in these houses for summer use.

Goff history would not be complete without mention of the roaring Fourth of July celebrations in the early days. The day was greeted by the "firing of the anvils" by Jack Handley. Two anvils were placed together with gun powder between them. The explosion was as loud as a cannon and heard for many miles. In due time the band would march up main street a "tootin' and thumpin'", followed by the Raggin Muffin parade, on their way to the judges stand. And on to Riverside Park, just west of the depot, which was heavily timbered with large trees and Spring Creek winding its way through the trees. This was an ideal picnic

ground and here many a politician made speeches. Across the road to the north and a little west was the ball diamond. Here boys such as John McManis, the Jepsons, the Cooleys, Clyde Tomilson, the Bradleys and many others threw a speedy ball. On July 4, 1891, a big celebration was held at Riverside park. Fireworks were immense and the day passed in fine shape. Rubbin Gibbin made a merry-go-round, which was powered by a steam engine, that he brought to the celebration.

After the school was moved to the top of the hill in 1891, the old two room building was converted into a dwelling. Then it housed the first poultry and egg buying station run by Al Wilson. The expense of drayage to the railroad was too great, so the business didn't last too long. Then about that time the Aaron Poultry and Egg Co. came to town and erected a building as close to the railroad as possible at the foot of Stahl Street, about where the elevator now is, facing north along first street.

When the curfew bell sounded forth by the assistance of Al Wilson and Mack Taylor, at night, you'd better get home or the marshall would get you. Much building was in the air. The Wendel store, where the bank now stands, the corner drug store across the street with Dr. Corwin's office upstairs. The drug store building was moved to the corner a block west and a new brick building was built.

By 1888, there were four full fledged hay firms in existence, all in big business. Freight shipments were being refused by the Central Branch. The rush of business was so great over the line that they could not handle any more. One thousand tons of hay were advertised in the Goff's news.

Then in May 1896, a bad hailstorm swept through the town, breaking thirty-two windows in J.H. Carr's greenhouse northeast of the school in Boyers addition, fourteen windows in the Methodist church, eleven in the schoolhouse and some in every building in town.

Judge J.R. Donaldson, who lived in Goff starting in the 1890's, was the police judge for the town.

At this point was when the joints were operating in town on

the south end of Stahl Street between First and Second Streets. There is an article elsewhere on this subject.

In 1912, foot bridges were built across the creek at the west side of town to join the sidewalks.

In July 1915, they sponsored a Chautauqua in a large auditorium tent one half block south of the school. They had ten programs including: Shumann Harvey quartet, four young ladies; a lecture recital form of program; Francis J. Gable, laughislopher or what we call a comedian; White Star Concert, Seichi Ikemoto, Japanese orator; Ye Old Town quartet, four gentlemen; Mrs. Marion Wharton, address; Miss Hallie Gossaway and the Neapolitan Troubadors, six Italians; Ben Hur singers and players; Judge Rolland Boggott, lecture. These Chautauquas became yearly events for a number of years.

At this time Ed Fish was city maintenance man and city marshall.



Looking up Stahl Street from the south. Taken between 1905 and 1910. Right side: carload of chickens, grain bins, blacksmith shop, livery barn, hardware and opera house, Dulake store building, First National Bank, Campbell Boarding House, school on top of hill and Methodist Church to right of Dulake building. Left side: Grain office, pool hall, Tom Berridge Hardware building, McConnell store building, Commercial Hotel, Home State Bank, Old State Bank building, and the Christian Church at the top.

In December 1917, a contract was let by the city for 100 signs thirty inches long giving the distance to Goff to be placed at

all the crossroads of roads leading to Goff. Also eight signs thirty inches square that read, "Goff Welcome" on one side and "Come Again" on the other side were to be placed on the eight roads at the edge of town. These signs were installed in 1918. In July 1919, speed limit and danger signs were put up. The speed limit in town was 12 miles an hour and 6 miles an hour at street intersections.

On Easter of 1920, Goff was blocked by a larger than usual snowstorm with drifts of fifteen to twenty feet deep blocking the railroad and country roads.

In 1920, Goff was at the center of the dairy community with a number of cream and milk buying stations in town. It was one of the busiest places in the U.S., the Goff depot did 30% more business than any other depot in Nemaha County, and more than any station between Atchison and Concordia. The cash remittance from the Goff depot for June was over six thousand dollars. The Hanna Poultry and Egg Company was the largest industry in northeast Kansas, doing the greatest gross business of any other industry in Nemaha county. They employed up to eighty people with the largest payroll on the Central Branch. The Franklin Ice Cream Company was the greatest whole milk business in northeast Kansas. The express on their milk for July alone was fifteen hundred dollars. Over fifty carloads of choice alfalfa was shipped from this community during the 1920 season. Goff was the produce center of northeast Kansas.

On May 6, 1921, the City had a rock picking on the main streets of town by Marshall Fish and ten school boys. They picked up a load of 3,840 pounds of rocks. In 1922, Cooley and Fitzwater purchased the old Aaron Poultry and Egg Building at the end of Main Street and had it torn down.

In October, 1922, the County Commissioners met in Goff for dinner to look at the needs for bridges. With the help of the City they decided to put in a bridge on the county road at the northwest edge of town and one on the Whiteway just west of the depot, later to become Highway #9.

In August 1925, a bus route was established from Holton to

Seneca. Goff was the midway station. S.M. Riley ran the route with his big Cadillac car making two trips a day. Then in 1926, George and Victor purchased the route and called it "The Seneca Transit Service Co.". It was a short lived enterprise.



Taken before 1910 from the hill northwest of town showing old school house on hill and Christian Church.

On a Saturday evening in 1926, Marshall Horlock counted 128 automobiles parked in the four blocks nearest the main business center. This was about an ordinary Saturday evening in Goff. Then in 1920, the City provided new yard and hitchracks just east of the Goff Grain office. During the twenties, poultry, eggs, milk, cream and apple orchards were the big businesses.

The water fountain was built and installed by Horlock on the main corner, for public use in the fall of 1930. The fountain had coils underneath that could be iced in the summer to cool the drinking water.

In February, a contract was let to straighten Spring Creek to run across the southwest edge of town. This project ran east to the Hooperville corner, a distance of two miles. The City, State Highway Department and railroad shared the cost. The City's share was three thousand dollars.

In March 1933, an oil well was started just southwest of the depot. It was claimed that when the Kansas City North Western

Railroad drilled a water well there they had hit oil. It was abandoned in June as the samples of oil in the test were insufficient to warrant spending a great deal of money on a deep well.

In the early spring of 1931, the "Club Lake" was built. The three acre lake in the F.D. Steele pasture west of Goff was built by a club membership. The lake was for members and membership cost five dollars in cash or labor. A fine bath house and spring board for diving and a fenced-in place in shallow water for children was built. The pond was stocked with fish for the use of the members.



Looking up the highway from the west in 1948. Right side: lumberyard, hatchery, Commercial Hotel. Left side: John Deere building, Wink's store, Home State Bank building, and First National Bank.

Then in May, the Council purchased a John Deere tractor. This was the first tractor the City had had. Before that the streets were maintained with horses. The tractor was equipped with a drag blade for the streets.

In May 1937, outdoor free shows were started, sponsored by the merchants and the City. They also sponsored the free shows in indoors in cooler weather. At one free show in December 1938, more than four hundred people attended in the Family Theatre. By this time John Hittle had become the Night Marshall.

The annual Harvest Home picnic was started in 1908 and was a two day affair. They were held in the grove just west of

town. A number of free attractions were arranged. The old custom of festivities of this kind included a barbecue beef and it was served free on the last day. A big tent was erected in the grove and comfortable seats, etc. were provided as a rest room for the benefit of the ladies and children. These were held for a number of years to promote business in Goff. They also usually had a baseball game each day. These celebrations were moved to the school grounds in the 1920's.



East end of Second Street where the present restaurant now stands. Shumaker's garage and truck.

In the 1940s the City purchased a siren and Horlock installed it on the water tower leg support. It was used for fires and other emergencies. It also had a timer on it that automatically blew at 7:00 a.m., 12:00 Noon, 1:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. except on Sundays. It was later moved downtown and installed on a block support behind the city building by the curfew bell. It still blows at the set times automatically but is no longer used in the case of fires.

The City sewer system was completed in 1965 or 1966. For electricity and water see the separate section on them.

1886 businesses in Goff were: E.B. Abbott, lumber, grain,

coal and barbed wire; J.E. Handley, blacksmith and wagon repair; A.O. Hart, hardware, implements and harness; Peter Mackay, livery, feed and stable; Wm. McConnell, hardware, implements, dry goods and groceries.

In 1900, Charles Kenison of Kenison brothers, and Oliver Munson were the hardware dealers. J.R. Sparling was depot agent in 1901 and also in the coal and grain business.



Old Handley house, site of the old Handley blacksmith shop showing hitching posts. Present Handley Park, taken in November 1952.

On January 1, 1924, there were forty two businesses in town. They were: The First National Bank; The Hanna Poultry and Egg Co.; Friend and Holston Lumber and Coal; Willis Morrill Groceries; Boozikee General Merchandise Store; C.G. Nichols Jeweler; The Sharpe Garage; Goff Tire and Battery Shop; G.W. Sourk's Drug Store; E.C. Mahler's Confectionary and Sundries; C.S. Goodrich Real Estate and Insurance; Goff Telephone Company; H.C. Rust's Pool Hall; The Goff Blacksmith Shop; The Regent Barbershop; Dr. W.G. Bouse; Dr. L.A. Corwin; Dr. L.T. Brown; Goff Poultry Co.; S.B. Owsley's Poultry, Eggs and Cream; The Standard Oil Co.; Fitzwater and Cooley's Ford Agency; Conrad Boeding Livestock Shipper; B.Y. Bristow's Harness and Shoe Repair; Sam Monhollan's Harness and Shoe Repair; City

Dray Line; Goff Transfer Line; The Home State Bank; The Spring Valley Creamery Co.; The Goff Grain Co.; Simon and Sons Furniture, Hardware, Groceries and Undertaker; Herman Mast's General Merchandise; Leeper's Cash Hardware; White Way Garage; Goff Roller Mills; The Van Noy Interstate Eating House and Rooms; The Commercial Hotel; The Hotel Campbell; The Owl Cafe; The White Way Cafe and Bakery; The Electric Theatre; The Goff Advance.



*Old city fountain in 1990.
Built in 1930.*

The names of those who signed to incorporate the town of Goff were as follows:

J.W. Taylor	Jno Cleaver	P. Foster
J.A. Convil	N. Zimmerman	W.O. McCulloch
J.W. Wendel	J.R. Pickett	F.G. Berridge
M.C. Teegarden	F.J. Watkins	Issac Berridge
J.H. Carr	H.F. Watkins	O. Munson
J.H. Christianson	J.W. Myers	Jno Miller
Bud Elliott	E.B. Abbott	W.F. Fordyce
G.B. Shell	D. Harter	R.L. Thompson

F. Wilmer	Bert Rucker	Thos. Olive
Cortez Wilson	M. Taylor	J.W. Elrick
L.A. Warren	J.W. Eckard	F. Haughawont
E.F. Crane	L. Clippinger	H. Berridge
J.R. Sparling	L.A. Corwin	W.L. Stocking
F.A. Myers	Otis Atkins	W.J. Rose
R. Hanson	F.M Sage	E.P. Moore
O.C. Williamson	H.G. Pickett	J.H. Huey

Dated March 8, 1894



Looking west showing the Home State Bank, Post Office, Hardware and Implement, Commercial Hotel, Store (later hatchery), and Lumberyard. Boardwalks across the streets.

Mayors of Goff

1894 William E. McKibbon (first)	1923 Roger Kilkenny
1898 J.G. Bickel	1933 Nick Henery
1899 Joseph McDomell	1935 Herman Mast Jr.
1900 J.W. Eckford	1937 G.W. Sourk
1901 L.D. Allen	1941 E.E. Holston
1902 Joe Munsel	1943 John Shaw
1906 E. Holston	1961 Earl Volz
1907 Frank Berridge	1969 Rex Shumaker
1909 John McManis	1972 Larry Hicks
1913 L.N. Simon	(Shumaker resigned)
1915 John McManis	1981 Kenneth McKee
1917 W.L. Forrest	1985 Gus Freed
1921 John McManis	1987 Larry Hicks (present)

Herman Mast Jr., elected Mayor of Goff in 1935, may have been the youngest mayor in Kansas at the age of 26.

Patsy Bell became the first woman to serve on the city council. She was appointed to fill a vacancy that occurred in 1971.



Looking up Stahl Street from the south in 1990.

RAILROADS

In 1863, a survey for a railroad was made out of Atchison by the Union Pacific and known as the Atchison and Pike Peak line. This was later changed to "The Central Branch" of the Union Pacific. This was the first railroad in the state to carry out the blueprint of their survey.

Then in July 1866, Congress passed acts granting large tracts of land in alternate sections on either side of the railroad line for a distance of ten miles. The Missouri Pacific Railway Company was organized on May 29, 1909 by the consolidation of some twenty-five railroads. (Taken from *Kansas History 1912* by Frank A. Blackmar).

The railroad was laid as far as Netawaka in 1866. Where Highway No. 9 crossed Highway 75 was a 'Y' for turning the trains around. A year later the road was extended to Corning.



Section crew in Goff showing the Union Depot Hotel to the right and the Kirschbraum Poultry building in the background. Taken in the 1890's.

The going was slow. Crews were sent ahead to cut timber along Spring Creek because wood was used to power the engines and this was about the only place timber was available. A spot was selected for a section house at what is now the far west end of Third Street where the Gerald Moores now live. A family by the name of Dean lived there and this station became known as "Deanville". In 1871, G.C. Stahl had a grocery store near there at the fifty mile post. This would have been fifty miles from Atchison.

The 1873 government aid to the Central Branch amounted to 245,166 acres of land.

By 1876 this northwest quarter was owned by George C.



Kansas City, Wyandotte and N.W.R.R., 1887

Stahl (see *How Goff Came To Be*). The railroad gave Chandler Abbott lots to build a hotel (see *Depot Hotel*). The first railroad station stood southwest of Stahl and First Streets near where the Standard Oil tanks stood west of the resent elevator. Chandler Abbott became the proprietor there.

Then in 1886 and 1887 a new railroad was pushing its way into Goff. The Kansas City-Wyandotte and Northwestern, as it was called, came from Wyandotte County through Holton, Goff, Seneca and to Virginia, Nebraska. This was later referred to as the Kansas City Northwestern. The charter for this railroad was signed in the office of Cook and Sharpe in March 1872 in Kansas City, Kansas. The headquarters were to be in Kansas City. The work was delayed in th spring of 1886 because of one of the worst strikes to that date.

Feelings ran quite high with the arrival of the Northwestern whose crossing of the Central Branch was fiercely contested. The battle was won by the K.C.N.W. by a nervy night gang of laborers beating the process of injunction, and Goff was at the crossroads of two railroads. (The above information was furnished by Mary Powell.)



Union Depot, built in the late 1890s

Telegraph service betwee Goff and Seneca went into operation on December 30, 1887. Messages could be sent and received in five minutes. In 1900 it was advertised that a Sunday excursion over the K.C.N.W., round trip to Kansas City, was offered for the fee of one dollar.

By 1913 the Central Branch had four passenger and six freight trains in a day going though Goff. The K.C.N.W. had four passenger and two freight trains for a total of sixteen trains going through town daily. Some of the trains had a twenty-minute

delay in Goff for meals. In 1915 the Missouri Pacific erected a large water tank just south of the Goff depot. It was extra large to serve both railroads. At that time C.R. Tolliver was agent for both railroads.

In 1919, the K.C.N.W. was put in receivership with L.S. Cass appointed as the receiver. He resigned and J.M. Lee was appointed as the receiver. He resigned and J.M. Lee was appointed. Representatives of about twenty towns along the K.C.N.W. line met on September 17, 1919 at the Kansas side Chamber of Commerce and formed an organization to work for the operation of the road after December 31, 1919. Service was suspended on the road on November 1, 1919. The funeral train of the Kansas City Wyandotte and Northwestern railroad went over the track one last time one day in the first week of December 1919 with the officials gathering up the last of the tickets.

In January 1920, railroad officials declared that the K.C.N.W. would go to junk March 1st if aid was not forthcoming to pay an operation deficit of \$500,000 and lift the corporation from receivership. In August 1925, the road applied for authority to abandon the railroad from Kansas City to Seneca. This was a distance of 117 miles with 44 miles of branch lines. The railroad was committed to the junk pile in February 1926 and the track

1913 Time Table.	
CENTRAL BRANCH	
West Bound.	
501 Passenger	11:25 P M
511 " "	1:15 P M
533 Freight	7:15 A M
591 " "	11:45 A M
573 " "	2:05 A M
East Bound.	
502 Passenger	4:58 A M
504 " "	11:45 A M
592 Freight	2:00 P M
580 " "	6:37 P M
584 " "	10:33 P M
K. C. N. W.	
West Bound.	
503 Passenger	1:25 P M
531 " "	9:10 P M
591 Freight	8:20 P M
East Bound.	
504 Passenger	1:05 P M
532 " "	6:38 A M
592 Freight	6:38 A M
553, 573, 584, and 584 carry passengers only to points where they stop. This information to be secured from conductors.	

1917

RAILROAD TIME TABLE

Following is the schedule of trains at the Goff depot which we print with out pay for the accommodation of our readers:

CENTRAL BRANCH

East Bound

Passenger, No. 502..... 3:33 a. m.

Passenger, No. 504..... 11:45 a. m.

10 minutes for lunch, leaves 11:55

Local Freight, No. 598, (except Sunday) 1:05 p. m.

West Bound

Passenger, No. 501 1:08 a. m.

Passenger, No. 503..... 1:00 p. m.

20 minutes for dinner, leaves 1:20.

Local Freight, No. 599 (except Sunday) 11:45 a. m.

KANSAS CITY NORTHWESTERN

East Bound

Passenger, No. 532 (except Sunday) 6:35 a. m.

10 minutes for lunch, leaves 6:45

Passenger, No. 504 11:25 a. m.

20 minutes for dinner, leaves 11:45

Local Freight, No. 590, (except Sunday) 7:40 a. m.

West Bound

Passenger, No. 503..... 12:45 p. m.

20 minutes for dinner, leaves 1:05

Passenger, No. 531 (except Sunday) 9:10 p. m.

Local Freight, No. 591, (except Sunday) 4:30 p. m.

was taken up in 1926 and 1927. The Northwestern surrendered its charter to the Secretary of State in October 1927. Thus ended an era of two railroads running through town.

From the *Goff Advance* in 1916, according to trainmen there was more freight and baggage handled at Goff than any other point on either the Central Branch or the K.C.N.W. and the depot platform was in the poorest shape of any place. In one week in October 1916, there were a total of fourteen carloads of cattle shipped from the Goff stockyards.

Due to the ceased operation of the K.C.N.W., the Missouri Pacific built new stockyards along their side of the tracks just east of the Goff Grain Company's warehouse in 1920. Up to this time the Central Branch used the yards of the K.C.N.W. and had none of their own. Then in

March 1923, they doubled the capacity of their yards. On July 20, 1920, there was a carload of wool shipped from Goff to Chicago.

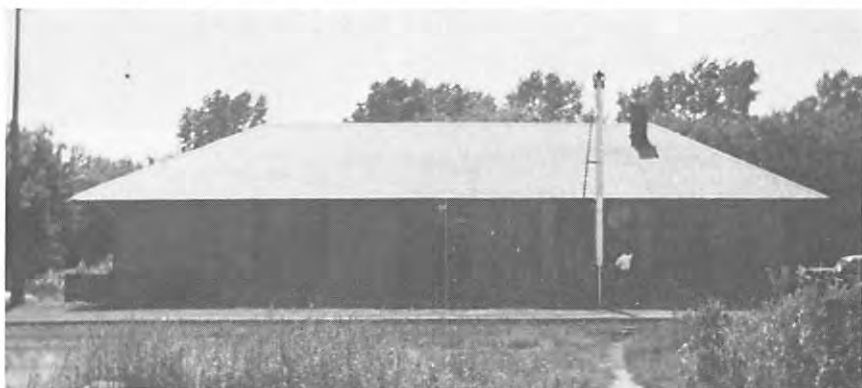
In 1923, Goff was the leading station of the 194 stations in the St. Louis division of the Missouri Pacific in the telegraph department. The rating was determined by dividing the cash received by the population at a given station.

Effective October 28, 1926 the railroad decided to agree with the majority and call their local station "Goff" instead of "Goffs as they had. The Post Office had changed the name in 1894.

During the year of 1926 the Goff Station handled 667 carloads of freight shipments. There were 229 carloads of dressed poultry and eggs shipped out.



Union Depot showing the Van Noy Eating and Boarding House, built in 1909.



Goff's last depot, taken in 1948

The railroad installed a switch and siding near the Charley Hooper farm two miles east of town in 1928. J.E. Wilcox purchased an elevator in Whiting and rebuilt it there. It was

called "North Bancroft", however, the local joksters called it "Hooperville" after Charley Hooper. The corner two miles east of town is still referred to as the "Hooperville Corner".

New pick up and delivery service was started in October 1931 inside the city by the railroad. This became known as the "dray line or service". L. Ewing was given the contract and received five cents per one hundred pounds of freight. A section crew was established in Goff in 1941.

The Union Pacific merged with the Missouri Pacific railroad in 1982 and in June 1986 rail service was discontinued from Parnell of near Atchison, to Vliets in Marshall county. Thus ended the era of trains running through Goff.



Taking up the railroad through Goff on June 4, 1990.

Today, June 4, 1990, the sledge hammers and machinery could once again be heard on the Central Branch. It must have been a joyful occasion in the 1860's when the railroad was laid west through this countryside. Today is a rather sad day for Goff and surrounding communities as the last train went through taking up the track behind it. This day was to be the last day of railroads running through Goff, a town that was built as a "railroad town".

Van Noy Interstate Eating House

The VanNoy Interstate Eating and Boarding House was built

A NEW DRUG STOCK

Just to remind you
that our stock is all new
and up-to-date and the
prices are right.

We want your business.

CORWIN'S DRUG STORE

just east of the depot and started operation in November 1909. This was the meeting place of about four trains at noontime and was a busy place. According to Mary Powell the first high school alumni meeting was held there. The depot burned in February 1908 and they used two box cars until the new depot was



The Van Noy Eating and Boarding House as it looks today. Home of Lyle and Mildred Weyer, 1990.

built about the same time as the Van Noy. Beginning the first of May, 1913, the Van Noy Railroad Eating House in Goff passed into the hands of the Interstate News Co. Their company purchased the entire Van Noy system over the Missouri Pacific lines. In February 1923, the

Open Nights !

We will be open every evening
next week during the three days
North Bros. are showing in Goff.

Let us serve you with Lunches,
Cold Drinks, etc.

The Van Noy-Interstate
Ray Oakland, Mgr.

February 1923, the Missouri Pacific took over a number of the Van Noy Eating Houses, but Goff was not one of them. Due to the closing of the Northwestern Railroad in 1919, business fell off and the Van Noy was closed about 1924. In December of 1924, C.K. Simon purchased the building. The following spring, in 1925, they moved it to a location north of the Spring Valley Creamery in lot 14 of block 14, and remodeled it into a residence. Simon then sold it to E.V. Bowlby, then Elmer Jordan purchased it in 1932. In 1934, Jordan and Son moved the funeral home there. Jordan's left here in the late forties. It is presently the home of Lyle and Mildred Weyer.



The last train to run through town June 4, 1990.

JOINTS

In the early days Goff was a rather roudy town and even though Kansas had a prohibition even before Goff existed, there was very little enforcement. Therefore, the joints were run like open saloons and liquor and beer flowed freely. According to Mary Powell there were five joints in town at that time. I assume this included the two pool halls that were here then.

The following article appeared in the Goff newspaper in February, 1901:

"Under authority of the county attorney, Ira Wells, Sheriff Campbell came down from Seneca with a warrant for all Goff joints, sworn to by a Goff lady. Two were captured. The Goff ladies were back of the clean-up movement, and on learning of

the release of the jointists after a hearing and with the rumor that they were going to re-open, they marched in a body to one of the joints and started to batter in the front preparatory to demolishing the place. Sheriff Campbell was across the street and on his promise to ship all goods and fixtures out of town on the first train, they ceased operation. The ladies stated in no uncertain terms what they would do to the next liquor dealer that set up in business. Strong resolutions were adopted at the church in the afternoon.

The following Wednesday night a number of ladies, heavily veiled, made a raid upon the depot where several kegs of beer and a quantity of whiskey were stored, gained entrance through the south door and laid waste to the entire outfit.

The same week fully a thousand of church people and Campbell college students of Holton went on a Carrie Nation crusade and put their blind tigers on the blink."

In 1901, Carrie Nation, a temperance reformer, made a tour of Kansas towns leaving in her wake broken furniture and wasted intoxicants. By this time her hatchet was almost as well known as the one George Washington used on the cherry tree. Her joint smashing crusade opened the eyes of Kansas in 1901 to the fact that the prohibition was being almost wholly ignored. She was in Goff and called on Dr. Corwin while here, however, I cannot find whether or not if she participated in any raids here.

<p>Goff Recreation Parlor G. H. Jepson</p>

The following information is from the *Goff Advance*: In June 1915, C.S. Goodrich purchased the three buildings just north of Rust's Pool Hall. This would have been between First and Second Streets on the west side of Stahl Street. He sold the north two to John Bailey who tore them dwn. The one story building was built about 1881 by Uncle Billy McConnell for a general store and was occupied by him for many years. The central two story building

was built about 1882 by Tom Berridge for a hardware store. The south one story building was built in 1883 or 84 by Charles Younkman for his drug store.

Later Charles Kennison bought the hardware stock, in the central building, and moved it to the north room and put

furniture in the south room. His business prospered there until about 1897 when he built the brick block, which was just west of the present American Legion, and moved his stock there.

Since that time these buildings have passed through varied and troublesome experiences.

Old Sharpe Building 1990, housed different businesses including pool halls. Presently White Barn II, an antique and furniture refinishing establishment run by John and Sue McDaniel

Here were the old time

doggieries, joints and other like gateways to perdition that invested nearly the whole of Kansas at the turn of the century, and where frequent brawling of maudlin drunks was staged. If those walls could have talked, what a tale they could have told.

POOL HALLS

H.C. "Chappy" Rust's smoke house was located on the south end of Stahl street on the west side. It was started in the early 1890's and operated there through the wild open saloon days of Goff. Chappy died in 1934 and Ted Rust ran the recreation parlor. That same year he opened a chili parlor on the south side of the building. The pool hall later closed and Raymond Fletchall, of the West End Garage purchased the building and remodeled it into a modern garage using the small chili parlor for an office. He died in February 1963 and the shop was closed. This building became the first home of the Rural Fire District in Goff. It is presently owned by Roy Bell.



In the 1890s or early 1900s, Bill Plummer had a pool hall on the east side of Stahl Street by the livery barn. This closed in the early 1900s.

Charles F. Mitts opened a pool hall in the Sharpe building east of the bank, present White Barn, after Salem Stie moved his mercantile business out in 1934. In 1936 it was broken into and a slot machine was stolen. He then closed and in 1937 A.C. Holthaus rented the building and opened a recreation parlor. In April 1939 Robert Fellows took over and in 1941 purchased the building. In 1942 his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Guy Jepson took over and also ran a restaurant at that time. The pool hall was closed in about 1964 or 1965.

Then in about 1965 or 1966 a man from Topeka rented the building and remodeled it into a night club. It was named The Silver Slipper and had a picture of a slipper painted on the front window along with the name, but it only operated a few months.

Russel Fulkerson and Darrel Boeckman opened a pool hall in the Sharpe building in October 1980 called Rocky's Palace. They closed in December 1982 and the White Barn II was started there, This was the last pool hall here.

LIQUOR STORES

A law was passed in the late forties or early fifties by the Kansas Legislature to allow for package liquor stores in the state. Then in about 1958, Emil and Bernice Thieme opened a liquo store in the old barbershop room in the west end of the Commercial Hotel. After Emil's death the store was closed in 1964. Vernon and Elsie Brack built a new block building on the east side of town, south of the cafe, for a liquor store. Then a

PLAYING POCKET BILLIARDS IS BENEFICIAL.

Young men—and older ones—like to play Pocket Billiards. There is something more than a facination in the game. It brings every muscle of the body into play and is a persistent and energetic agent in developing the physique of men and young men. It is the modern game, and millions of the best of homes are equipped with tables and are not considered complete without them.

Try a game yourself where order and gentlemanly conduct are predominating features.

CHAP'S SMOKE HOUSE

If you don't play come in and smoke.



Liquor Store, 1990

petition was circulated to get the issue in Goff brought to a vote in hopes, by some people, of getting the town declared dry. However, the issue was defeated and the Bracks opened on April 15, 1967. Elsie still operates the store at that location.

CITY HALL

The City Hall started on the corner west from the present bank building and it was moved to the brick building north of the bank by the curfew bell in the early 1900s. In 1939 the City maintenance man and electrician, Horlock, built a small building just to the east of the hall to house the electrical equipment and supplies. The City had purchased the Henry Berridge building just to the north and planned to build there, but then they



Old City Hall building showing the curfew bell, taken in 1990.

purchased the present City Hall building. Clarence Powell built this building in the 1890s. In 1913, the P.L. Gibson Mercantile was there and sold out to Peerless Mercantile Co. They closed the store in June 1915 and moved the stock. The Electric Theatre was started there by T.L. Rahl. In 1919 the I.O.O.F. purchased the building, then sold it to the city in 1939 for the sum of \$1,500. The Oddfellows had remodeled this building (for further information see

the article on that lodge). Then in 1940, J.H. Horlock remodeled the City building. He moved the stairway from the west end to the southeast corner and partitioned the basement into two rooms

with swinging doors so it could be opened into one. The City purchased 160 used theatre chairs for the upstairs with plans to start picture shows there. The first show was shown there by the City on Saturday night, March 2, 1940. However, there had been shows shown there before when it was



Present City Hall upstairs and old I.O.O.F. hall taken in 1990.

known as the Electric Theatre. Then in the sixties the Lions Club remodeled the hall again by putting in new oak flooring upstairs, particle board on the walls both up and downstairs, and dug out and enlarged the kitchen to its present state.



Present City Hall downstairs showing the old school bell in front, taken in 1990.

LIBRARY

In March 1923, the Delta Sigma Sunday School Class of the Christian Church started a library. They used the rooms in the back of the telephone office. This was on the south side of the present highway across from the American Legion hall.

Then in March 1934 the Goff Woman's Club sponsored a library. It was started just north of the present City Hall, then

moved in 1938 to the commercial rooms. This was on the west side of Mast's store about where the school bell now stands. In 1941, they moved into the basement of the City Hall building. By this time they had 1,200 books with "Gone With The Wind" being the most popular. The library closed after World War II.

A \$ WORKS WONDERS AT THIS STORE

Our customers know it—we want others to. That's the reason we are asking you to bring your next dollar here and watch it perform. It will cause the goods to slide right over the counter and into your arms until you think you are buying the whole store—with the clerk included.

See Prices Below—Friday and Saturday Only

\$1.50 Men's straw hats..	\$1.08	LAWNS	
2.00 Men's straw hats..	1.25	10c only.....	.08
2.50 Men's hats.....	1.75	12½c only.....	.10
3.00 Men's hats.....	2.25	15c only.....	.11
4.00 Men's hats.....	3.25	25c only.....	.19
1 job lot straw hats.....	.10	25c Lingerie Crepe at..	.19

P. L. GIBSON

CITY WATER

In June 1914, a city well was dug for a mild condensary which never developed. This well was drilled right in front of the old ice cream building where the City presently stores its' equipment.

They struck sheet water that ran out of the top of the well. They sand packed in the casing so they drive the casing through the sand to shut it out. The well was eighty-four feet deep and the water was struck at seventy-two feet. There was constantly

fifty feet of water in it. Later the Hanna Poultry and Egg Co. used this well until they drilled their own in about 1920.

In June 1923 the City Officials ordered a survey to ascertain the cost of a complete City Waterworks. Ordinance No. 81 was passed in August 1923 to bring to a vote a bond issue for installing a City Water System. The bond was for \$24,000. The bond election was set for September 14, 1923. The City Administration went on record in their minutes that if the bond issue for water carried, they would issue an additional \$17,000 for a new sewer system. The bond carried by a vote of 112 to 66. In November a test well was put down just north of the spring at the J.E. Munsel farm at the northeast edge of town, present home of Don and Ardis Kramer. An ordinance was passed in April 1924, calling for the



City Water Tower, taken in 1990

construction of a sanitary sewer system. An advertisement for bids on the water and sewer systems was published and the bids were opened on April 11, 1924. After finding the total cost higher than expected, the City Council held an "expression election" on April 21 to determine if the people were still interested in installing the water system without the sewer system. The vote carried by 138 for to 60 against. The well was finished at the lower end of Main Street and pumping started on June 10, 1925. This was the test pumping to clear the well up. It was figured that it would supply 100 families with an average use of 4,500 gallons a month. The water tower and mains were pumped full in August 1925. J.H. Horlock became the City Light and Water

Commissioner at that time.

Then in 1929, Horlock and a crew hand-dug a well to a depth of 26 feet and 14 feet wide. They had twenty feet of clear water and piped it to the old well. They planned to dig to a depth of forty feet. In November 1932, Horlock fitted a belt pulley on the city tractor to pump water as electricity was costing \$35 per month to pump the city well. In 1934, using federal funds under the CWA program, Horlock and crew dug the well to about fifty feet. It required two pumps to keep the water out so they could dig as it came in at 25 gallons a minute. They had thirty feet of water. They bored a number of laterals in the water bearing formation in all directions for a distance of 75 feet to feed the water into the well in 1937.

There have been different wells drilled over the years since that time. The present one being used is by the ball diamond on the east side of town. There is presently testing being done northeast of town for a new well.

LIGHTS AND ELECTRICITY

The first street lights, purchased on February 11, 1914, were the Blaugas or Carbide gas lights. The plant was in a little brick building behind the hardware store just west of the present American Legion Hall. This came in two parts, carbide and water. The carbide came in cans and they filled one tank with water. The carbide had a place to open and they let the carbide down in the water to form the gas. Buck Henery states that an old man who stayed at the hotel, who had been city marshall at one time, took care of them. He took a step ladder every evening and lit the lights and in the morning he turned them off. There were between ten and twenty lights.

On July 15, 1915, an electric light ordinance was passed to hold a special election on September 7 for a bond not exceeding \$6,000 to put in electricity.

The bond carried, 113 to 40. The electricity was bought from Centralia, who hooked up Corning at the same time, from the Centralia light plant. The electricity was turned on in February

1916. Then in 1919, there was a shortage of coal, which was used to fire the plant, so people could only use juice when it was available. In December, they secured more coal so Goff could get electricity from 5:00 a.m. until 11:00 p.m. and were allowed to use the street lights on Sunday evening for the first time in a month. In November of 1919, Mr. and Mrs. A.G. Steele installed a light and power system two miles west from Goff, and they became the first farm folks in the community to have electricity.

Then in August 1922, Centralia started buying electricity from the Marshall County Light and Power Co., a branch of the United Light and Power Co. of Abilene who had a water power plant at Rocky Ford and Blue Rapids. This did not affect the contract Goff had and they still bought the electricity from Centralia.

Kansas Power and Light Co. took over the company in 1926. J.H. Horlock was the City Light and Water Commissioner starting in 1925. Horlock built concrete street lights in the shape of a "T" with a light globe on each end. He installed them in April, 1929, on each side of the highway, which had become the Main Street by then. Then in 1936 the system was upgraded and a new distribution sub station was built by Kansas Power and Light on top of the hill just north of the school.

The franchise to buy electricity from them and re-sell it to the Goff patrons was discontinued in the eighties and we are now served directly by the Kansas Power and Light Co.

TELEPHONE

The first telephone exchange or switch was installed in the Kennison Hardware in block 11 which was in about 1898 or 99. Grace Berridge (Mrs. McManis) was one of the operators. Then in April 1900 the Goff Telephone Exchange was merged into a stock company with H.F. Hinds as President; J.G. Bickel, Vice President; Levi Clippinger, Secretary; and L.D. Allen, Treasurer. Later the exchange was moved upstairs and after the fire in 1903, an emergency office was set up in the lumber yard office. It was then that a meeting was held about a rural telephone

proposition and long distance service was hooked up by the Bell Telephone Company. The office was moved upstairs in the hatchery building, a brick building built by Frank Watkins in block 12 across from the present Legion Hall. In June 1921, Mr. Quinn, manager of the Bell Telephone Co. of Seneca, purchased a substantial interest in the Goff Telephone Exchange. In August they purchased the Cox residence just north of the First National Bank by the curfew bell. They remodeled it, making the front



Switchboard in the Goff Telephone Office north of the Bank taken in 1937. Shown: Desta Dilling, Central, standing and her daughter, Nyra Dempsey, seated.

room into a central office and moved the phone company in during the first week of November. In 1926, the company was sold to United Securities Company of Abilene, and was operated by the American Telephone Co. Then in 1928, the American Company installed underground cables, replacing most of



Goff Telephone Office on south side of the highway east of the lumber yard.



SERVICE

Phone 54

Service is the important thing to users of the telephone. It is our aim to give that service that meets the demand and needs of our patrons. For any complaint or suggestions Phone 54.

**The Goff
Tel'phone Co**

M. Quinn, Mgr.

the overhead lines. During the hard times of 1929 very few phones were in use, which provided a hardship on the company. In 1958, the J.B.N. Telephone Co. bought the exchange from the American Telephone Co. On September 12, 1959, the Goff exchange was changed over to dial equipped with an automatic six minute conversation cut off timer with the operator in Holton. J.C. Carson was the president of the Jackson, Brown, Nemaha County Telephone Co. Later his son, Robert, took over the company and has since sold it to the Contel Co. We could very well now say farewell to the good old days. Goodbye was said to the old telephone with the crank to ring it with that had hung on the wall since the early 1900s and hello to the new dial instrument.

FIRE PREVENTION

In December 1913, a Goff Fire Prevention was formed to try to prevent fires by bringing to the public's attention to be cautious of fire hazards and correct them. On February 18, 1914, the City purchased a two wheel cart to carry two babcocks, two dozen buckets and fitted with a tank, pump and hose. In June 1924, 1,000 feet of fire hose was ordered by the Council to have ready when the City Water was turned on. On Sunday, August



The new Rural Fire Truck, a 1963 Chevrolet, with Lions Club members. Standing: Lyle Weyer, Earl Volz, Jim Grimes. Sitting: Ward Sourk. Kneeling: Roy Bell, Gerald Sourk, Frank Tappehorn. Taken in 1964.

23, 1925, the hose was attached to a water hydrant on Main Street for a trial. The pressure shot nearly 100 feet into the air. This gave Goff as good of fire protection as any town in northeast Kansas. They had enough hose to run two hoses for two blocks and they got their hose cart shortly after, in 1925. A volunteer fire department was established in February 1926 by city ordinance and J.H. Horlock was appointed the first Fire Chief. The City purchased a Dodge pickup in 1950 and in 1955 they put the hose reel on it and used it for a fire truck. Then in 1963 the first Rural Fire District in Nemaha County was formed in Goff through the efforts of the Lions Club. Roy Bell was appointed as the first Fire Chief of this new district. Shortly thereafter the Goff Volunteer Fire Department and Nemaha County Fire District #1 were consolidated into the Rural District bringing an end to the Goff Volunteer Fire Department. However, the Rural District is headquartered in Goff and we are provided with up-to-date fire and emergency equipment including the EMTs. Patricia Fulkerson Roberts was the first EMT to be certified in Goff. The present Rural Fire Station is located on the west side of Stahl Street between First and Second Streets.



Rural Fire District One Fire Station, taken in 1990

THE WHITE WAY CAFE R. L. WILHELM, PROP.

The Cafe That Has Made Good.

First: By Producing the Goods.

Second: By giving you your money's worth

Third: By always being on the job.

THE GOFF ADVANCE.

GOFF, NEMAHIA COUNTY, KANSAS, FRIDAY, MAY 2, 1913.

NEWSPAPER

The Goff Nemaha County Advance

RAY T. INGALLS
Owner & Publisher

Published every Thursday.
Entered as Second Class Matter
at the Postoffice at Goff, Kansas,
according to Act of Congress.

Subscription Rates in Kansas

One Year, \$1.22 (tax 3c)	\$1.25
6 Months, 73c (tax 2c)	75c
3 Months, 38c (tax 2c)	40c

Outside Kansas

1 Year \$1.25; Six Months 75c;	
Three Months 40c	

Advertising Rate

Display, per col. inch	25c
Readers, per line	5c
Front Page Readers, line	10c
Black Face Readers, line	10c
Classified, per line	5c
Card of Thanks	50c

Barnhill, 1910; E.F. Jones, 1911; Ray T. Ingalls took over May 1, 1913, and ran the paper until it closed on September 3, 1943.

There weren't any editor's copies preserved prior to when Ingalls took over in 1913, according to the *Advance* article in the October 31, 1929 issue.

The *Goff Advance* started in Goff just south of the Commercial Hotel on the west side of Stahl Street south of

The first paper in Goffs was known as the "*Goffs News*", with Tom Kerr as editor and it was printed in Centralia. The *News* reported on April 27, 1883 that he had purchased material to put in an office, however, the first paper printed in Goff was October 1877 and reported that the "*Goff News*" by Kerr was June 27, 1889, and then L.J. Jones took over. Jones moved to Seneca and Goff was without a paper until the *Goff Advance* was started. According to Mary Powell the first one, Volume 1, was printed on March 31, 1892 and the editor was Fred Haughawant, Editors to follow were: O.C. Williamson, 1898; L.J. Adams, 1900; P.L. Briney, 1901-04; T.A. Kerr, 1905; A.M. Kerr, 1906; Berridge and Watkins, June 1906; Homer Hochgrafe, Nov. 1906; J.L. Papes, 1907; T.A. Kerr, 1908; Charles

**Tell Your Story
Quickly and Often
Advertise with
The Goff Advance**

Money Ready. Low Rates.

Payment privileges.

Loans closed promptly.

No delays.

Second Street. It was moved from there in 1913 to the old bank building on the corner of Third and Stahl Streets. In 1916 it was moved into the building one half block north of the bank, just north of the brick building by the old curfew bell. Then in

BILL BOOSTER SAYS

LISTEN, FRIENDS! ROADS FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD LEAD INTO OUR TOWN! CUSTOMERS AND HOME-SEEKERS WILL JAM THESE ROADS IF WE'RE SMART ENOUGH TO ATTRACT THEM! ARE WE? I'LL SAY WE ARE! LET'S GO! "



November 1923, the *Advance* moved into the brick building on the south side of Second Street just across from the present American Legion Hall. In November 1928, Ray Ingalls, Editor, purchased the old Sharpe Garage building on the corner east of the First National Bank. He remodeled the building and in February he moved the *Advance* to that location.

In June 1939, they installed a Cranston drum press replacing the old grasshopper style prouty newspaper press. The September 30, 1943 issue was our Swan Song as a publisher by Ingalls. Due to the war, help was unavailable and also postal regulations no longer permitted them to send copies free to the boys in the service during World War II.

Thus ended the newspaper publishing in Goff.

Our "Swan Song" As A Publisher

1578 Weekly Issues in
Goff—Some Part for
2098 Weeks—No Skips

When postal rules and other restrictions prohibited sending our weekly newspaper free to the most wonderful group of boys and girls on earth in uniform, all the joy was taken out of the job of mak-

ing that newspaper. Red ink in the business end, caused by economic conditions and lack of advertising, had not mattered until then. As we approached the time for "folding-up," we wondered just how to adequately express our deep appreciation for the thousands of loyal friends, correspondents, subscribers and advertisers through the years. A myriad of faces, voices and names came crowding down through memory that would fill many volumes. Mere words fail to convey half the thanks that we would extend to you for your help, encouragement and co-operation. Only time and an opportunity to partly repay that loyalty can balance the obligation. We feel like Tiny Tim—and can only say—God Bless You, each and every one.

If you folks who have become accustomed to the weekly visits of The Advance, feel that you will miss it, just consider for a minute the pilot who has tried to keep the news clean, impartial and fair to everyone the last 1578 weekly issues, and look after the many other details of the publishing business. During that time we have never missed a week looking after the major part of the writing and proof reading. On a very few occasions we have written copy or read proof in bed. and on two or

three occasions have actually taken a trip between "press days." Our uninterrupted service goes back 520 weeks beyond that, when for ten years we had never missed a full week's pay or contributing some portion of the work on a weekly newspaper.

For the duration we have a strenuous work program, but when the war is won, we hope to find time to loaf a little, observe the beauties of a Kansas sunrise at leisure, watch the wonders of nature in the trees, flowers and the growing crops (without the profit angle) and see what other places and people on this old globe look like and are thinking about.

All Advance subscribers who have credit due will automatically be placed on the subscription list of The (semi-weekly) Courier Tribune at Seneca, and credit given at their subscription rate. The former Advance publisher will assist the Seneca folks in giving the best news service possible under war-time conditions to this corner of Nemaha county, and will be glad to accept new or renewal subscription for The Courier-Tribune until a better plan can be worked out. Any Advance subscriber who is not satisfied with this arrangement will be cheerfully refunded the unearned balance by seeing Ray T. Ingalls.

Ray T. and Mickey Ingalls, Editor of the Goff Advance, 1913-1943.



THE POST OFFICE

The first Post Office was established in Goff on February 27, 1880 under the name of "Goffs". The name was changed to Goff on the fifteenth of December in 1894. Before that the people of the Goff territory received their mail from the Sother Post Office, which was located about two miles east of town on the railroad. Others received theirs at the Hays Post Office which was located two miles to the north of where Goff now stands.



Post Office taken in the teens. Present American Legion. Pictured left to right: G.M. Hyde, carrier; Dr. Murray, veterinarian; Clyton Simon, Postmaster; Lady unknown; Herb Wessel, carrier; Man unknown. Car belonged to one of the carriers.

These offices were closed after the Goff office was established. The first office was located in the Abbott store about one third block south of the First National Bank. It was later moved across the street to just south of the Commercial Hotel on the west side of Stahl Street.

W.L. Stocking was appointed Postmaster on May 29, 1897 and he built the brick building on the north side of Second Street where the present American Legion Post is located on the west part of lot 8 in block 11.

After Ray T. Ingalls was appointed Postmaster, he moved the post office to his building, the old Izaiah Sharpe Garage building on the corner east of the bank in block 10, east side of lot 8, on July 1, 1939. Harold Vernon was appointed Postmaster in May of 1949 and later moved the office to the old Sourk Drug Store building which was the north part of the present First National Bank. Roy Bell became Postmaster in 1974 and in 1978 the Post Office was moved to its present location which was built new on the east side of the present bank building.

In December 1896, the Goff Post Office was robbed of \$300 in cash and \$150 in postage stamps.

The first rural carrier from Goff was John Hill, who started in 1894. G.M. Hyde started as a carrier on Route One on July 1, 1902 and carried until his death on November 7, 1927. Herb Wessell carried on Route Two, and John Hill on Route Three. Hill quit in 1924, and Frank "Ray" Riley took over. On August 1,



1921, William Hawley, Jr. took over Route Two. *Post Office on north side of present bank, 1976. Shown is Roy Bell, Postmaster.*

After G.M. Hyde's death, the three routes were consolidated into two with Riley on Route One and Hawley on Route Two. Then in July 1933 the Bancroft Route was consolidated with Goff and the Star Route of Harry Johnstone's was eliminated. Mack Wesley was carrier on the new Route Three from Goff. On May 31, 1936, McDowell Wesley retired and the three routes were again consolidated into two with Riley on Route One and Hawley on Route Two. On May 31, 1941, the Bancroft Post Office was closed and the patrons were served on Rural Route One out of Goff. Twenty families were added to the route.

After Ray Riley and Bill Hawley retired, Raymond Bradley was appointed as carrier on Route One and Roy Bell on Route Two, both in 1958. Roy Bell then became the Postmaster in 1974 and the Routes were consolidated with Corning, leaving but one carrier out of Goff.

Raymond Bradley retired in 1989 and Don Huddleston, from Vermillion, is the present carrier on Route One.

Alfred Huerter, who was the carrier at Corning came over to Goff and carried the old Route Two. He retired the first of

THE GOFF POSTOFFICE
EDDIE, RAY, BILL AND RAY T.

September of this year, 1990.

On February 1, 1923, W.J. McCrann was given a contract to carry the mail from the depot to the Post Office. Prior to that time the depot agent was responsible for getting the mail to the Post Office. Henry Cooley got the contract starting April 1,



Present Post Office, taken about 1980

1928. Over the years a number of different people, including the barber, Walter Bradley, had the contract. The service was discontinued in the seventies when the passenger train service was discontinued by the railroad. Since that time the mail has

been delivered to the local office by truck.

The first air mail letter was sent from the Goff Post Office in July, 1924. The rate for air mail was then eight cents per zone. There were three zones and we were in the middle so it cost sixteen cents to air mail a letter to either coast.

Starting March 2, 1936, the Post Office Department established a Star Route from Atchison to Washington going through Goff. This was done due to the daytime passenger train being discontinued. The bulk of the mail, however, was still carried on the night passenger. This Star Route was discontinued in the sixties.

Postmasters who served when the city was under the name of "Goffs" were: Chandler Abbott, February 27, 1880-1887; Edmond Abbott, January 15, 1887-1889; Thomas Berridge, August 7, 1889-1890; Chandler Abbott, December 10, 1890-1892; Edward Crane, February 6, 1892-1894. The name of the city was changed to "Goff" on December 15, 1894. Postmasters serving under the city name of "Goff": William Dennis, December 15, 1894-1897; Walter Stocking, May 29, 1897-1915;

Clayton Symon, March 2, 1915-1923; C.S. Goodrich, June 20, 1923-1934; Ray Ingalls, February 28, 1934-1944; Edwin Huerter, January 31, 1944-1945; Desta Dilling, Acting Postmaster, November 15, 1945-1949; Harold Vernon, May 5, 1949-1974; Roy Bell, July 20, 1974-1986; Paula Welton, February 28, 1987-1988; Jody Lear, Officer in Charge a few months; Cheryl Farmer, August 1988 to present.



Inside present Post Office showing rural carrier's case. Pictured is carrier Raymond Bradley.

BANKS

The State Bank of Goff was chartered around 1890 and was incorporated on November 29, 1891, and had the following officers: E.B. Abbott, President; J.S. Clifton, Vice President; L.D. Allen, Cashier; and C.S. Goodrich, Assistant Cashier. It started on the building just north of the Henry Brothers Storage building on south Stahl Street on the east side, block 13, lot 13, present shop of Gerald Moore. It was later moved to the then new bank building on block 11, lot 1, which was one block north of the present Highway #9. This building was torn down in 1979.

The Farmers State Bank was opened in 1903 with a capital stock of \$10,000 and had the following officers: Dr. L.A. Corwin, President; L.N. Simon, Vice President; A.R. Howland, Second Vice President; and William Callahan, Cashier.

The Home State Bank was organized by Dr. L.A. Crowin in 1909 and was in the building that Dr. Corwin had built on the corner directly across the street west from the present First

National Bank building in block 11 lot 8 with C.S. Goodrich as Cashier.

In January 1904, the State Bank was robbed of \$5,200 in "cold cash". Only one man was ever caught and he escaped jail in Seneca while awaiting trial. They were never caught after that; however, \$618 of the loss was recovered, but the bank had to pay \$200 in expenses.


In May 1919, Mr. Roger Kilkenny was elected as Cashier of the Home State Bank replacing C.S. Goodrich. Mr. Goodrich was promoted to Vice President.

GOFF, KANSAS. Dec 9 1929 No. _____

THE HOME STATE BANK 83-627

PAY TO THE ORDER OF A. E. Hosmer \$65.00

Sixty-five + 00 DOLLARS

FOR Father's Monument  Harriet E. Taylor

On February 1, 1933, the Home State Bank closed its doors due to financial difficulties. The cashier, Mr. Kilkenny, had left a statement with \$40,160 worth of notes admitting that they were forged. He went to Seneca and turned himself into the county attorney. He had forged the notes as a way to try to keep the bank from going under during the hard times. The notes were not forged for his personal use. He was sentenced to ninety-four years in prison on a plea of guilt on seventeen charges. He was pardoned in 1934 by Governor Alf Landon and released from prison.

This building later housed a grocery store. It was torn down in July, 1973.

In 1904, the First National Bank of Goff was organized by the consolidation of the State Bank of Goff and the Farmers State Bank with A.H. Fitzwater as the Cashier. They built the

**Official Statement
Of the Financial Condition of the
HOME STATE BANK**

At Goff, State of Kansas, at the close of business on the 30th day of June, 1916.

RESOURCES

Loans and discounts.....	\$44,542.10
Loans on real estate.....	300.00
Overdrafts, unsecured.....	43.74
Furniture & fixtures.....	2,000.00
Cash items and clearing house items	12.57
Cash & sight exchange, legal reserve.....	5,334.26
Total	\$52,232.67

LIABILITIES

Capital stock paid in.....	\$10,000.00
Surplus fund.....	2,000.00
Undivided profits	<u>\$327.39</u>
	327.39

Individual deposits subject to check	\$19,251.41
Certificates of deposit due in less than 30 days 5,377.02	
Certified checks.....	19.95
Banks' and bankers deposits.....	<u>1200.00</u>
	\$25,848.93
Certificates of deposit due on or after 30 days.....	2,328.65
Bills rediscounted.....	11,727.65
Total.....	\$52,232.67

STATE OF KANSAS } S S
County of Nemaha }

I, C. S. Goodrich, Cashier of said bank do solemnly swear that the above statement is true; that said bank has no liabilities, and is not indorser on any note or obligation, other than shown on the above statement to the best of my knowledge and belief. So help me God.
C. S. Goodrich, Cashier.

Subscribed and sworn to before me, this 8th day of July, 1916.

F. J. Watkins, Notary Public.

(Commission expires on the 10th day of March, 1918.)

Correct—Attest:

Herman Mast
E. F. Goodrich
Wm. Mast
C. S. Goodrich
John Butt
Directors.

To W. F. BENSON,
Bank Commissioner, Topeka, Kansas.

present bank building in 1905. It had a common wall on the north side with the Hays drug store. In 1978 the bank purchased the old drug store building which, at that time, housed the Post Office. They then built into the present Post Office building. The common wall was partially removed and the bank was expanded to include that room. Also a driveway was put around the building and a "Drive-Up" window was installed.

On March 5, 1920, fire was discovered in the basement of the bank building. The dense smoke made it difficult to get to the fire and it was some thirty minutes while willing workers had carried hundreds of gallons of water, before it was brought under control.

Then in 1949, A.H. Fitzwater sold the bank to a Justin Sullivan from Mercier who was supposed to have a son who was getting out of the service. This son was to run the bank, so the people of Goff were informed. It wound up being in the ownership of the banker. Goff businessmen and farmers in the area, about 125 of them, met to discuss their dilemma. Two bankers from Topeka talked to the group and

The First National Bank

GOFF, KANSAS

Capital and Surplus \$35,000.00

STATEMENT OF CONDITION AT CLOSE OF BUSINESS DEC. 27, 1916

RESOURCES		LIABILITIES	
Loans and Discounts	\$106,082.28	Capital	\$25,000.00
Overdrafts	1,597.47	Surplus and Profits	14,833.17
Banking House, Fur. & Fix.	4,900.00	Circulation	7,800.00
U. S. Bonds	7,800.00	DEPOSITS	123,585.17
Federal Reserve Bank Stock	4,050.00		
Redemption Fund, Rev stamps	410.00		
Cash and Sight Exchange	49,234.64		
	\$171,074.39		\$171,074.39

The above statement is correct. --A. H. Fitzwater, Cashier

outlined possible courses of action to take to retain a bank in town. A committee of three men were appointed to negotiate with the new owner. They were talking, at that time, of forming a state bank according to Harold Collier who was a grocery store owner at that time. The First National Bank in Kansas City advised the new owners to sell the bank rather than have the people of Goff start a new bank. The committee met with Mr. Lohmuller, banker at Centralia, and reached an agreement to buy the bank back. The committee consisted of Harold Collier, Ward Sourk, and L.J. Stark. They sold shares in the bank for this purpose and appointed James S. Grimes as the Cashier.

In May 1965, James Grimes sold his interest in the bank to Danny Kellenberger from Sabetha. He was here only a short time and sold his interest to Ward Sourk in September of that same year. After Sourk's death in August, 1979, Mr. Phil Gosling became the banker and is still there at this time.

The following article appeared in the *Courier-Tribune*, November 19, 1984.

1904 GOFF BANK ROBBERY RECALLED

One of the interesting exhibits at the Nemaha County Historical Society concerns the robbery of the State Bank of

Goff that occurred in 1904. Mrs. C.F. (Florence F.) Goodrich, who later lived in Colorado Springs, Colorado, was assistant cashier of the bank at the time the robbery occurred, and in 1954 she wrote an account of the robbery as she remembered it.

Included in the historical exhibit are bent coins and other evidence found at the scene of the robbery. Also included is the manuscript written by Mrs. Goodrich. The following article is an abridgement of her manuscript.

There were two banks in Goff in 1904 -- The Farmers State Bank and the State Bank of Goff. E.B. Abbott was president, J.S. Clifton was vice president, L.D. Allen was cashier, and I was assistant cashier of the State Bank of Goff. I am the only surviving member of the officers.

I did the janitor work at the bank at that time, the bank being located one block north and on the west side of the street from the present First National Bank quarters.

Being the beginning of the year, we were exceptionally busy, working every evening and our cash reserve had run up



The old State Bank building when it was occupied by the Goff Advance. Show, Ray T. Ingalls, and unknown. This building was torn down in 1979.

higher than usual. To help get over the rush period we usually sent to Campbell College in Holton for a stenographer to help us out for about a month, the catching up period. I was living with my brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. L.D. Allen, who lived next door to the bank.

No. _____	GOFF, KANSAS. _____	19 _____
FDIC	THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK	83-626 1011
PAY TO THE ORDER OF _____		\$ _____
_____		DOLLARS
FOR _____		
: 10 1106 269 :		

I usually did the janitor work just about daylight and always went in the back door in the morning. This particular morning, the door stood about half way open and I thought that the young man helping us at that time had beat me there that morning (as he helped with the janitor work), but my mind was soon changed when I stepped inside the room and smelled powder and gas fumes. I could see in the dim light of the breaking morning a big hole in the vault wall and the brick and mortar piled out beside the hole, and I realized at once that we had been blown up and probably robbed. I walked from the directors' room into the counting room back of the counters and there lay a piece of the Mosler screw-door safe in the middle of the floor, weighing about 250 pounds, and the vault door stood open. I looked in the vault and I realized momentarily that they had accomplished their aim, as our private papers were piled about a foot deep on the floor, and the safe door was completely blown out.

I ran right back to the house and told Mr. Allen, the cashier, that we had been blown up. We notified the sheriff right away, and it was no time until the town folks all knew that

the bank had been robbed. We ordered the bloodhounds from Beatrice, Nebraska and they picked up what was a supposed trail which led them to a straw stack east of town a couple of miles, where it was quite evident someone had rested part of the night at least. The trail then led almost directly into Wetmore, and up a stairs where three men who had been picked up that morning by officers were being held. The dogs led right to the building and up the stairs into the room where the men were. One of the bloodhounds made a dive for one of the men, and he screamed, "Don't let that dog bite me". I might say, however, that these men were not generally thought of as being implicated in the robbery, after proper investigation. We were notified two or three days later that a man had been picked up in St. Joseph, Mo., who was supposed to be one of the robbers. He was, at the time of his arrest, in a disreputable house lighting a cigarette with a five dollar bill. He gave his name as John Henderson.



First National Bank taken in 1948, showing the drug store and old G.A.R. building with the pool hall and the old Sharpe garage building further to the east.

The town was jittery and that's why I think Mr. Allen, the cashier, said I would have to go down to St. Joseph and represent the bank at his hearing. There were a few coins picked up on the floor of the bank and as I left for St. Joseph, Mr. Allen said I had better take those coins with me as there was no telling what I would need. The hearing was held in the

then Tootle-Lemon National Bank. Henderson, so called, was represented by his attorney only. I never did see Henderson personally.

As the trial progressed, the three 50¢ pieces were the evidence that won the case for us against Henderson. As it is well known by most everyone, banks keep their reserve rolled up in, for instance, half dollar and ten dollar rolls. By putting the half dollars together properly, you will notice that they all have an indenture on the edge that fits almost



Home State Bank building, across the street west of the First National Bank building. Torn down in 1973.

perfectly. Henderson had in his possession two of these half dollars, and the other one was picked up by myself on the bank floor the morning after the robbery. The judge sitting on the case said when he noticed these coins fit so perfectly together that that was conclusive evidence, and judgment would be rendered against John Henderson as having in his possession money that came out of the Goff Bank. Inasmuch as he would be bound over to the District Court in Nemaha County, the sheriff of Nemaha County at that time was very anxious to take him to Seneca and hold him in jail there until the day of his trial. The police force at St. Joseph tried to talk him out of this, as they said he was a dangerous character and he had no business trying to keep him in the jail at Seneca, but the sheriff was so insistent that the police department at St. Joseph released him to be sent to the Nemaha County Sheriff to be held in the jail there awaiting trial. The sheriff and his family were

away one Sunday and when they came back about dusk, Henderson was gone, and was never heard of from that day to this, so far as I know. It was reported (from what source I do not know) that he rode the rods of a freight train west out of Seneca that night.

Out of the proceeds of what Henderson had on him at the time of his arrest, the Goff Bank had to pay their attorney, Henderson's attorney, and court costs amounting to a total of \$200.

I might say in this connection, and at this point, that the robbers walked off with \$5225 and some cents. The money that was picked up off the bank floor included a \$5 gold piece, slightly bent, which I am keeping for a keepsake. Mr. Allen said I might have this money if I would replace the face value of it, which I did.

The men with the bloodhounds told us at that time that safe blowers would take putty or soap which they could work into a soft condition and make a cup out of it which they would stick onto the place where the door and safe came together and pour nitro-glycerin and then ignite it. I might say that they went into the vault through the hole in the vault wall and the first



First National Bank and Post Office, taken in 1990

thing they did was to break the lock on the vault door, thus enabling them to ignite the fuse, go out and close the vault door but not bolt it; thus, when the explosion came, the vault door would go open without breaking the vault, as well as smothering the sound of the explosion.


These men had had lots of experience in running down burglaries and studying the "cause and effect" of their maneuvers. They also told us that in the case of powder used as an explosive, almost all other explosives except nitro-glycerin, would find vent in the source of least resistance, while the nitro-glycerin would operate against its strongest resistance. They left an old tin fruit can in the vault which they doubtless used to pour the nitro-glycerin into the cup-shaped receptacle after sticking it onto the safe door. It had just enough, supposedly, nitro-glycerin left in it so that when you tipped the can a little it would streak down the bottom of the can a substance which looked more like castor oil than anything else I can think of, only with a little more color. It sat around the vault for about three weeks as I recall now, and one day I was alone in the bank in the afternoon and went in the vault for something and I picked this can up and examined it, and thinking it had set around there long enough, I took it to the



Location where the first bank started in Goff on the lower end of Stahl Street. Hendershot's Owl Cafe was later located there. Presently owned by Gerald Moore. Taken in 1990.

back door and was about to throw it out when I wondered if a match would light it (kid like). We used coal for heat in the bank and the coal house stood about fifteen feet from the back door of the bank. We had thrown our ashes and cinders out there for a walk to the coal house door. I set

this can just outside the door on this cinder walk and went back in the bank and got a match. I lit the match and threw it in the can, stepping back a couple of paces when it flared up momentarily the prettiest blue flame you ever saw, and then came the explosion which was heard all over town. It blew a small hole in the can next to the bottom about the size of a hazelnut, but the imprint of the cinders on which this can sat was presumably every one shown on the bottom of the can, substantiating the dog men's theory that nitroglycerin went against the strongest resistance. My ears rang for about two weeks. I often wish I had saved this can, but I didn't.



Banking money is a HABIT—a good habit which gains for you riches and independence.

The way to have a bank account is easy
START ONE

The First National Bank
GOFF - - KANSAS

Courier-Tribune, Monday, November 19, 1984

HOTELS

The Depot Hotel

In 1877 the railroad company gave to Chandler Abbott for the purpose of building a hotel, lots 9 and 10 of block 13, across the street north of the present elevator. This was known as the Depot Hotel was sold at sheriff's auction on December 4, 188 and bought again by C.C. Abbott. In 1893 the Hotel was operated by M.C. Teegarden. It was later torn down.

The Union Depot Hotel

The old Union Depot Hotel stood at the west end of Second Street about where the present E & L Service is located. On July 31, 1914 at about three o'clock in the morning it burned

ANNOUNCEMENT

We have again taken charge of the Union Depot Hotel and invite all old and new customers to call.

Meals will be 25c hereafter instead of 35c.

Short orders at all hours. Cold drinks, Cigars, Candies, etc.

J. C. HUNT, Proprietor

down. It was filled with guests and many of them lost their clothing.

The Commercial Hotel

In about 1879 the Commercial Hotel on lot 1 of block 12 was built by A. J. Dewey. John Barnes hauled the lumber by team wagon from Sother, a train station two miles east of town. There weren't any unloading docks on the railroad here yet then. By 1880, C.C.

Abbott became the proprietor of the Hotel, and in 1882 Joseph Taylor traded for the Hotel. In 1884 he traded it to Seward McConnell. W.H. Blood ran the Hotel and later Frank Spangler became



Commercial Hotel, taken in 1983

the manager. In 1913, H.A. Dorste offered meals in the Hotel Restaurant for twenty five cents. Then in 1916, Spangler sold the Hotel to E. B. Abbott. S. B. Shaw purchased it and then traded it to J. H. Horlock from Bancroft. In 1928 Horlock installed a new metal roof and applied stucco to the outside. In 1934 he built a new room on the west end of the building for the Ewing barbershop. In 1937 he added a top floor on the addition and put an opening into the Hotel. Then G.H. Jepson, who ran the restaurant at that time in the Hotel, enlarged to take in the old barbershop room. There were various operators

of the restaurant over the years. Then in January of 1958 Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Brock purchased the Hotel and ran the cafe. They closed the cafe in the sixties and sold the Hotel to Chester McDaniel in May 1979, and it was never open for business after that.

*When you want a good eat
Come around and take a seat
At a table in our cozy eating house;
It will give you much cheer
As Christmas draws near--
You'll be happy as a banker's little
spouse.*

*Where a little money
...gets...
A Big Eat.*

Eat Christmas Dinner Here!
Costs less, tastes just as good, saves much work.

THE COMMERCIAL HOTEL
FRANK SPANGLER, Prop.

Let us know before Christmas--places will be reserved, special dinner prepared.

The Campbell Hotel

Carrie Camp (no relative of Galena Camp Jones, as there were two Carrie Camps here at that time), ran a boarding house on lots 15 and 16 of block 10 on the corner north of the First National Bank. In 1904 she sold it to James Dorman and in the fall of 1915 Della Campbell purchased it. She remodeled it into

a hotel and opened the Campbell Hotel in November 1916. She installed a new modern furnace in the building in 1923.

The Campbell Hotel was one of the most popular hotels on the Central Branch and



Old Campbell Hotel, taken in 1990

sales people would drive many miles in order to reach Goff for rooms and the fine meals served there.

The property came under the ownership of Donna and Betty Rainey after Mrs. Campbell's death.

They sold it to Mrs. Bernice Kirk who made it over into the "Hillside Rest Home", a nursing home for the elderly. After Mrs. Kirk's death, Bertha McKellips ran the home from

1956 to 1959. It was then that Walter and Mary Ann Kirk took over the ownership and operation. They purchased the Merry Manor Nursing Home in Holton and moved the business there in February 1976, thus ending the business in Goff.

In 1983, Steven Jacobs bought the hotel building and ran a book business there for a time. He sold it to the present owner, Carol Welker, in 1985.

THE ELECTRIC THEATRE

In February 1916, W.L. Norris rented the building that is the present City Hall building from Mrs. Powell for an Opera House and Picture Show Theatre. This building was built by Clarence Powell. They figured to have seating capacity for 250. Arrangements were made to still use it for a basketball court by the high school.

The first dance to be held in the Theatre was held after the show on October 27, 1916, and the music for the dance was provided by an orchestra from Muscotah.

In December 1919, Hiller Camp purchased the Electric Theatre equipment and business. The first real official pictures of the actual fighting in France during World War I was shown at the Theatre on Monday evening, October 23, 1922.

The Campbell Hotel GOFF, KANSAS.

Extends to the public all the accommodations of an up-to-date hotel, with all modern conveniences. We want your business and will extend every courtesy to secure it. Rates to meet all classes of trade. Phone No. 38.

***Mrs. Della Campbell,
Prop.***

Saturday, May 12th

In the feature picture for this week we have
GEORGE LARKIN in

"Bulldog Courage"

An all-star caste presents this interesting story.

Added to this we have a Spotlight comedy
"A Domestic Knockout" in which Billy Fletcher and
Violet Joy are starred. Admission 15c and 25c.

ELECTRIC THEATRE

attended the free showing of "*The Timber Queen*". There were two showings, at 7:30 and 9:15.

Then in November 1928, Ray T. Ingalls, editor of the *Goff Advance*, purchased the Sharpe Garage building on the corner east of the bank and remodeled it for his newspaper and the Theatre. The Theatre was moved in the first of March 1929, and they also held dances there. The name was changed to "The Family Theatre". The first color picture shows were shown in Goff in December 1937. On April 5, 1938, 300 people attended the free picture show at the Family Theatre. They also had roller skating there for a time.

In the forties the Theatre was again moved into the Powell building and for a time free shows were held outdoors in the summer.

In August, 1923, M. Quinn leased the Theatre from Hiller Camp. He renewed the screen and put in a new entrance lobby. In 1923 the merchants of Goff provided free shows on Wednesdays at the Theatre to promote business. On October 3, 1923 over 400 people

DANCE!

INTRODUCING
Topeka's Most Popular Dance
Orchestra

TED BAIR
and the
JESTERS

SIX SNAPPY SYNCOPATERS
Top-Notch Artists in Both Hot and
Sweet Music, and Entertaining
Novelties

FRIDAY, APRIL 22
Family Theatre—Goff

Meet Your Friends Here Every Friday.
DANCERS 75c SPECTATORS 25c
LADIES FREE

COMING—Friday, April 29th
"Chief" Davis and His Manhattan Or-
chestra.

THE OPERA HOUSE

The Opera House was located on the east side of Stahl Street in the building that later was the Leeper Hardware. This

COMING!
GOFF OPERA HOUSE
SAT., MAY 30

MULLEN'S
Indoor Circus

**25 Trained Cats, Dogs and
Pigeons**

**A European Novelty Direct from the
Kansas City Hippodrome. -**

**CHAS. NICHOLS, BALLAD SINGER, LATE MEMBER
CASTLE SQUARE OPERA CO., BOSTON**

PRICES 10 AND 15 CENTS

was in block 13 across the street from the barbershop. They had live performances. The first motion pictures shown in Goff were shown there in 1915. In 1916, the Opera House was moved to a new location above the store building that sat directly across the street south from the First National Bank, next to the water fountain. That building was two stories at that time with a store on the lower floor. Later that year, 1916, the Opera

House was closed by then owner Edward Fish, after the Electric Theatre opened in the Powell building.

SCHOOL

Until the 1880's, school was held in District 37, Fairview, which was located one mile north in about the center of the present Fairview Cemetery.

District 86 was organized and a two room schoolhouse was built on block 7 lot 10 with Maggie Mercer, later Mrs. Wallace Groves as teacher. A.O. Hart was clerk, Dr. Warrington was treasurer and Tom Berridge was clerk of the school board. Soon this building became inadequate and an old blacksmith shop was used for the first grade. *Goff News* reported September 10, 1888 that E. F. Crane was engaged to teach school for \$50 a

month. Maggie Vandervort and later Mrs. Chap Rust were also teachers.

In 1891 a fine four-room building, the pride of the town, was erected on the knoll at the north edge of town at a cost of thirty five hundred dollars. School opened that fall with F.M. Watkins as principal.



Old school house built in 1891.

A man by the name of Haggard was the contractor for this spacious building and much complaint was made to the school board that the amount of beer being consumed on the job might delay finishing in time for school to open. The first graduation was in 1895, one year high school. Mrs. Josie Gabbert was one of this class according to Mary Powell. The *Goff Advance* newspaper reports that the first graduates in 1896 of Goff High School were Lily Johnstone, Daisey Shirley, and Linda Baker with S.P. Nold as superintendent. The high school was for only one year and subjects were algebra, rhetoric, bookkeeping and philosophy.

During a heavy south wind, the school building was blown

from its foundation which was soon repaired. The strong south winds would shake this tall building like leaves on a tree and many times school was dismissed until the winds subsided.

In 1910 a new brick school was built and the first commencement was held in 1911 in the new building. The bonds for this new school were \$8.600.



New school built in 1910. Picture taken in 1910.



New school as it appeared later showing gymnasium. This school was torn down in the early eighties.

Starting in 1914 the high school played basketball in the theatre building, present City Hall. They also played later in the Sharpe Garage building on the corner east of the bank. Also in 1914 they had their first football team. The boys got up their own team and got Zeke Molineux, the coach from Brancroft, to come up and give them some plays and coach them a little. Brancroft did not have a football team at that time. They even bought their own football and the only uniforms were what they could pick up. Lawrence Munsel never attended high school, but came in and played football with them. They had to match their own games and

make their own schedule. According to Herman Henery Sr., a member of that team, probably the biggest game they ever played was when they went to Holton and played them.

Since Holton was a much larger school than Goff, they were beaten very badly, but they had played them a "darn good game".



1914 Football Team: Back row: Dorsey Wolfley, Otis Jones, Herman Henery, Lawrence Munsel, Curley Webster, Carl Jessee and Zeke Molineux, coach. Front row: Loren Simon, Jim Worcester, Ray Springer, Jim Webster, Sleepy Corwin, David Woolard, and Fritz Watkins

In February 1918, the Goff Public Schools started holding classes six days a week instead of five. This was to save fuel as it would let the children out earlier in the spring.

On April 4, 1918, a proposition to adopt a rural high school plan carried by a vote of 110 to 2. There was a very light voter turnout as there was very little opposition. Rural High School started with the term of 1918-19 along with Goff Public School District 86. In 1919, the High School ordered a new large power planer joiner. With this added equipment, the manual training department of the Goff School was one of the best in the country. Then in that same year, the school boards

authorized dental inspections of each child in school. According to Dr. Crumbine, the State Board of Health, the Goff Schools were the first in the state to provide for dental and physical examinations in school. The dental examinations were given by Dr. J.C. Grindle of Seneca, and Miss Florence Jones, Dr. Corwin's nurse, gave the physicals.

FOOTBALL

Night Game Tonight

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2

8:30 P. M.

SIX MAN FOOTBALL

HAVENSVILLE R. H. S. vs. GOFF R. H. S.

Athletic Field—Goff

Admission 20c and 30c—including tax

In May 1920, the examinations were held at Seneca for normal training certificates and for high school credits. A fee of one dollar was required for all seniors. Papers, pens and ink were furnished by the

county. The Goff Public and Rural High School was one of the best in the state with ten instructors. The new year books in 1921 issued by the Kansas Department of Education ranked Goff Rural High School in Class "A", the highest classification. Seneca and Sabetha were the only other Nemaha County schools in Class A. The school was also in Class A in 1922. Fifty percent of the students came from farms. They put in a new stage in the auditorium. The gymnasium wasn't built yet at that time. They offered a complete preparatory course, two year domestic science course for girls, a complete commercial course and a special music teacher for music in the high and grade schools, two music classes for high school for the beginners and those who had music before, and a two year course in vocational agriculture that ranked the best in the state. Athletics were conducted and recognized as necessary for physical development. The Kansas uniform grading plan was used. The children were graded on five qualities: scholarship, initiative, attitude, cooperation, and individual improvement.

In the fall of 1922 the school auditorium was equipped with a new stage and curtains. The front drop was a customary advertising curtain with a scene surrounded by tasty ads for

local business places who purchased the space.

The high school enrollment in 1923 was fifty-eight. In August of that year a new school shop building was built in the southeast corner of the school grounds. It was 36 x 24 feet in size. Then in 1937 the building was remodeled with an upstairs and the inside was boarded up.

The Girls Reserve Club was started in the spring of 1925. That organization was the high school branch of the YWCA. School opened in 1925 with a total of 181 students. City water was piped into the school building during Christmas vacation that year.

In 1926, Goff Rural High School was the only school in the country that qualified for state aid in its agriculture course. At a special assembly held on November 3, 1926, an emblem or name was chosen for the Goff High School. They were called the "Gorillas". The Gorillas formed a pep club and chose the colors of green and white.

In 1929 a complete plumbing job was installed replacing the old chemical system with an all new system of water flush toilets with septic tank.

The business men were liberal to the athletic fund for the purchase of new uniforms. At the beginning of the 1929-30 school year the name of Gorillas was changed to the

Basketball!

Soldier Town Team

vs.

Goff Town Team

Electric Theater-Goff

Friday 20
Evening, Feb....

8:00 o'clock

Come out and see a snappy
game of the great indoor
sport.

Admission 15c and 25c

"Chanticleer" out of regard for Goff's greatest industry, poultry. The girls teams were called the "Cacklers". Their slogan was "You'll have to scratch to beat us". The new football jerseys were green with a white rooster on the front, the pants khaki drill, the socks green and white and the helmets were white. According to those who were in school at that time, Hanna Poultry and Egg Co. bought the uniforms with the idea that the name would be changed.

In May 1930, the grade school deeded property to the high school for the purpose of building a new gymnasium. The feeling was that the Rural High School District, being larger, could generate more tax money. A meeting was then held at the rural Sunny Knoll school north of Goff. John Swart, Chester Vandervort and O.J. Ward were put on a committee, appointed at the meeting, to consult the county superintendent and county attorney to challenge the legality of the action taken at the school meeting. A petition was then signed by 262 voters and was presented to the school board in November 1930,



1946 State Basketball Team. Back row: Raymond Bradley, Harvey Munsel, Donald Fletchall, Darwin Holiday, Alvin Gleason. Front row: Neil Erickson, Darwin Hawley and Coach L.J. Stark

proposing a vote to disorganized the Goff Rural High School District. The petition was voted on at a special election on November 28. It was voted not to disorganize the district by a vote of 168 to 243. This election, however, brought to light the difference of taxes from being in a high

school district or not being in one.

In 1933, the school grounds were graded and terraced under the federal program called "Civil Works Plan". It was

voted then, by the voters of the Goff Grade School District 86 to issue bonds for \$9,000 toward the cost of a \$16,000 auditorium-gymnasium. The plan was to build it under the U.S. Works Progress Administration where the government would pay for 45% of the cost. The gym was completed in 1936 and was first used for the 1936 graduation of Goff Rural High School. The gym ran east to west with a stage on the south with dressing rooms. There were bleacher seats on the north side. Then in 1937 Goff hosted the Nemaha County Basketball Tournament in the new gym. There were seventeen schools in the tournament. Oneida and Bancroft played each other to see who would be in the sixteen team tournament. Bancroft defeated Oneida by a score of 15 to 14. The Goff boys and Wetmore girls won first place in the tournament. The gym had one of the largest playing floors in the county.



1947 State Basketball Team. Back row: Newt Slocum, Donald Cannon, Sam Munsel Jr., Donald Fletchall, Darwin Holiday and Coach L.J. Stark. Center: Raymond Bradley. Kneeling: Neil Erickson, Raymond Reichert, Alvin Gleason, Darwin Hawley

On October 30, 1937, the Swanee Jubilee Singers, a Negro male quartet, gave two programs at the gym. They were from the Greenville Industrial College, Greenville, Mississippi.

The Goff High School, along with other smaller schools, in the area, changed to six man football in 1938. They had a well

lighted field at the east edge of town. This was the first year for lights.

In 1939, L.J. Stark's salary for Superintendent of the High School was \$170 for nine months. Teachers' salaries were: Vernon Hauts, \$125; Mildred Lane, \$100; Helen Berridge and

Ester Mullikin, \$95 each. The "Big Seven" six-man football league was formed that year between Wetmore, Goff, Soldier, Havensville, Beattie, Bern and Mayetta. Goff had some very good football teams for a number of years. Football was discontinued about 1949.



1965 State Basketball Team: Back row: Maurice Wessel, James Johnstone, John Gold, Lester Wessel, Leo Wessel, Roy Fund. Front row: Herb Baxter, William Hards, Edward Sourk, Charles Sourk, Rick Hunt, Coach John Darr.

During the years to follow Goff Rural High School produced three state basketball teams in 1946, 1947 and 1965. In 1947 they took third place and in 1965 fourth place.

The High School closed after the 1966 school year and the children now attend school at Wetmore. There were some grades taught here for

a few years and after that the school building was closed and all the students started attending at Wetmore.

The school house and gymnasium were torn down in the early eighties and the school bell was mounted in its present location on the south side of the City Hall in 1985 by the High School Alumni Association.

Superintendents or High School Principals of the Goff school were: 1891, F.M. Watkins; 1896, S.P. Nold; late nineties, W.T. Anderson; 1911, F.R. Palmer; 1915, George T. Coddington; 1916, George O. Kean; 1917-1921, Charles Richard; 1921-1925, Donald McConnell; 1925-1929, C.C. Holmes; 1929, C.H. Brewer who resigned; 1929[1931, Byron T. Smith; 1931--1934, W.R. Fullerton; 1934-1957, L.J. Stark (Stark was hired on February 9 when Fullerton left); 1958-1959, Clayton Capps; 1960, Ralph Abplanalp; 1961, Roy Flaherty; 1962, Lloyd Williams; 1963-1964, William Young; 1965-1966, Muriel Will.

DOCTORS

One of the first doctors in Goff was Dr. Boyer. It was his father who owned the land that became Boyer's Addition.

Dr. Luther A. Corwin came to Goff in 1888 and received his permit to practice medicine in 1890. In 1903 he passed the examination before the State Board in Pharmacy. He ran the drug store until 1917 when he sold it out. Dr. Corwin started in a wooden building on the corner west across the street from the

present bank. He then built a new brick building on the location that had the Home State Bank in the east side with his office and drug store in the west side. He was the official doctor for the railroad until he retired from that position in January



Home and last office of Dr. L.A. Corwin. Present home of Leonard and Fannie Smith, 1990.

1931 after forty years of service. He had confined his practice strictly to office work and consultations in March 1922 except for emergencies. This was done due to his health. He died on February 24, 1932.

Dr. Maxon practiced medicine in Goff from

1894 until he moved to Corning in 1905.

In the year of 1903 there was also a doctor by the name of Dr. Deaver located in Goff.

Dr. Cecil C. Tolle came to Goff from Powhattan in July 1911. He practiced here until

DR. C. E. TOLLE Physician and Surgeon

Professional calls answered at all hours.

Office 1st door East of Postoffice
GOFF KANSAS

DR. L. A. CORWIN,

Practice limited to office and
consultation.

Goff, - Kansas.

November 1915 when he moved to Seneca. His office was the first door south of the Commercial Hotel in block 11.

E.R. Swain was a dentist here then and had his office with Dr. Tolle.

Dr. Dwight C. Smith located here in March 1919, after being discharged from the Army. He died of influenza on February 15, 1920. He was located in the old bank building on the corner of 3rd and Stahl Streets.

Dr. L.T. Brown located here in 1919 and was located in a house just north of the restaurant that stood just east across the street from the present E & L Service Station. After Dr. Smith's death in 1920, Dr. Brown purchased the equipment and drugs of his and moved into the old bank building. In January 1922, he installed a big 3,000 candle power electric light which he used in his treatment of chronic diseases. He left Goff that same year and moved to Kansas City.

DR. J. B. ROBERTS
Physician and Surgeon

Calls answered all hours.
Office in the residence formerly
occupied by Dr. Smith.
Phone, 12, Goff, Kansas

Dr. J.B. Roberts had an office in the old hatchery building across from the present American Legion Hall. He was there before Dr. Bouse located there in 1920.

There was a Dr. W.A. Stillwagon here with his office in that same building in 1916. He only stayed here a short time.

In July 1918, Dr. A.L. Lemon came to Goff with an office in the Goodrich building, which was immediately north of the present City Hall. He also only stayed here a short time.

In November 1917, Dr. M.W. Milne, chiropractor, opened an office in the Commercial Hotel. He was here on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday afternoons and evenings. About that same time, Dr. F.C. Waldenmaier from Kansas City opened a part time office in the parlor of the Hotel. He was an eye specialist and fit glasses.

Dr. J.L. Sisson, a dentist, located here in 1916. He had his office in the building directly north of the present City Hall. He

only stayed in Goff a short time.

In 1920, Dr. L.A. Corwin convinced Dr. W.G. Bouse to move his practice here from Centralia. He located his office in the building opposite the Post Office, present American Legion Hall on the

south side of Second Street. In 1931 he moved his practice to the first door west of the Home State Bank, about where the school bell now stands. He bought the Simon home, two blocks north of the present E & L Service in April 1923. He enclosed the east porch into an office and waiting room and moved his practice there in February 1932. This is the present home of

DR. W. G. BOUSE
PHYSICIAN and SURGEON
Goff :- Kansas
Office at home, two blocks north of
depot corner.
Phone 21



Old home and office of Dr. W.G. Bouse, taken in 1990. Present home of Roy and Patsy Bell.

this author, Roy and Patsy Bell. On June 20, 1941, Dr. Bouse was killed when he was hit by a train at the railroad crossing on the northwest edge of town. The impact carried his car almost through town on the front of the engine. He

was to be the last doctor in Goff for a number of years.

Dr. Thomas Woodson, an Osteopath, came to Goff and started practice in the house by the water tower in 1951. He later moved to the house across the corner northwest from the school ground. He had an automobile accident and injured his back and subsequently closed his office in 1957 and went to Seattle, Washington.

Dr. L.R. "Henry" Searight, M.D., from Seneca, opened an office here in the Methodist Church in March 1985. He had this office open one day a week. Then in August he moved to his clinic in the house on the far east end of Second Street across

from the cafe. He later moved his Seneca practice to Hiawatha, but continues to maintain his practice here on Wednesdays of each week.



Present office of Dr. Henry Searight, 1990.

VETERINARIANS

Dr. Sam Maeder located his veterinary practice here in May of 1919. He had formerly been located here and came back from Robinson.

Z. H. McDonnall Veterinary Surgeon

Residence Telephone 307P. At
Dorste's Livery Barn in Goff each
Saturday afternoon.

Goff, - Kansas.

Dr. Z.H. McDonnall located in Goff in the early teens. He was living at his parent's home northeast of town and came into the livery barn every Saturday. He was drafted into the army in 1917.

Dr. J.M. Murray began his practice here on Dr. Corwin's Pinehurst farm, two miles west of the cemetery. He sold out the farm in 1925 and moved into town. He continued to practice here for the rest of his life and was the last veterinarian to be located here.

DR. J. M. MURRAY
VETERINARIAN
PHONE 49, GOFF

DRUG STORES

According to Mary Powell the first drug store in Goff was owned by Dr. Boyer and located on the corner of Second and Stahl Streets. The *Goff Advance* states that in 1882 or 1883 Charles Younkman built a drug store on the west side of Stahl Street just south of the present fire station. Dr. L.A. Corwin later had a drug store along with his practice in a wooden building on the corner of Second and Stahl on lot 8, block 11, across the street west of

A NEW DRUG STOCK

Just to remind you that our stock is all new and up-to-date and the prices are right.

We want your business.

CORWIN'S DRUG STORE

the bank. This building was also built by Younkman. Dr. Corwin passed his examination before the State Board of Pharmacy in 1903. The wooden building was moved to the corner west and Corwin built the brick Home State Bank building on the corner. Corwin closed his drug store in 1916 or 1917.

MARTHA ANN FRUIT CAKES!



Made with fourteen varieties of fruits and seven kinds of nuts.

Baked in early spring and sold in the fall.

Get your order in now in time for the Thanksgiving dinner.

Sourk's Drug Store

The Hays Drug Store started just south of the Commercial Hotel, then moved to a location just to the north of the bank, which is presently the north part of the bank.

G.W. Sourk started in Corwin building in 1904 and in 1911 he purchased the Hays Drug Store and moved there. He operated it

Father's Day Cards and Gifts

HOT or COLD GALLON JUGS	\$1.59
ELECTRIC FANS	\$7.98
BEVERAGE SETS	\$1.09

Picnic Supplies of all kinds

Zibung Drug Store

Phone 10

Goff, Ks.

until his death in 1941. A.J. Zibung, from Muscotah, purchased the drug business on October 1941, from Mrs. Sourk. She remodeled the building with living quarters in the rear for the Zibungs to live in.

Then in the late forties or early fifties, Henry and Irene Kempin purchased it. They weren't druggists and only ran the soda fountain and sold other articles and non-prescription products. They closed the store in the early fifties. Later Desta Dilling purchased the building and the Post Office was moved in there. In 1978, the bank purchased the building and enlarged the bank into there by opening up the common wall between the two buildings.

FUNERAL DIRECTORS

L.N. Simon and Son were the undertakers in Goff. They sold out to J.J. Cox and Son in 1914. They returned to the business later when they again became the hardware and implement dealers in 1921. He sold out to W.J. Groves in 1926, who were also undertakers. When Elmer Jordan purchased the implement business and hardware in 1927, he also took over the undertaking business. In 1928, he began advertising the "Goff Funeral Home", E.L. Jordan, Manager, and W.R. Popkess, Embalmer. Popkess was from Sabetha. Jordan had a formal opening of the Funeral Home on June 4, 1930. It was then located in the old bank building one block north of the present bank on the west side of the street. In 1938, Jordan and Son, Elmer John, opened a funeral home in Centralia and

GOFF FUNERAL HOME

**A Complete Service, Including
Ambulance.**

Day Phone 75 Nights 93

E. L. JORDEN, Manager

W. R. POPKESS

Embalmer and Funeral Director

also moved the Goff Funeral Home from the old bank building to the Jordan home, where the Lyle Weyers presently live. Elmer John was a licensed embalmer so they purchased the Popkess interest in the funeral home. In the late forties Jordan closed the funeral home here at about the time he sold the John Deere business in 1948. This brought an end to the undertaking business in Goff.

In 1922, a complete funeral was advertised by the Seneca funeral director for seventy five dollars, including the casket, grave box, and use of the hearse and chapel.

Jorden

Funeral Home

**A complete Service,
Including Ambulance.**

JORDEN and SON

E. L. JORDEN & E. J. JORDEN

Flowers For All Occasions

Day Phone 75, Night 93.

MARKETS AND GROCERY

In 1900 the butcher shop in the north part of what was later the Leeper Hardware, was run by G.M. Rollins. Then the

Goff Meat Market



**We have at all times Fresh and
Salt Meats Home-made Bologna
Fish on Fridays.**

W. C. Hawley

Goff Meat Market was run by Gaume and Gaume. They installed a new ice making machine with a capacity of 1,500 pounds of ice at a time. In November 1913, they sold out to W.C. Hawley. In December 1913, O.E. Coulson took over and called it the "City Market". On December 1, 1919, Elmer Jordan purchased the Meat Market and grocery business from Coulson, and in 1920 he traded the stock to Washburn and Company for grassland in

Pottawatomie County. That same year Claude Washburn purchased the interest of G.W. Washburn and operated the market along with Harry Talbott who also owned an interest. On January 31, 1920, L.N. Simon opened for business in their store building, which was just across the alley west of the present American Legion Hall, with a new stock of groceries, shows, hardware and furniture. Then in June 1921, they took over the butcher shop which had been operated by Talbott. Washburn and Co. sold their big meat refrigerator and meat stock to L.N. Simon in August which had been operating across

the street south of the Legion Hall. This left only one meat market in town. (See also *John Deere and Funeral Directors*).

The Cash Store, located on the south side of Second Street across from the bank and Post Office, was owned by George Bickel. He sold out to J.E. Dorman and in November 1919, J.E. Dorman and Will Mast traded it to S.E. Wilson, of Wetmore, for his land just east of town. In 1915, it was operated by Mr. and Mrs. M. Bryant and Son.

Children's "Black Cat" Stocking Week



This Store is
Black Cat
Headquarters

**More Wear
Less Darning.**

*As school days call for hose I wish to call your attention to the **BLACK CAT** line. Our children's 15c hose are the best sold for the money.*

THE CASH STORE

"DON'T ASK FOR CREDIT"

Economy In Dry Goods

Economy is the source of wealth. Practice it yourself and increase your bank account. It is all in knowing what, when and where to buy.

We have unquestionably the most economical store in this town, and to substantiate this statement we ask you to come in, look over our goods, test their quality, and price them. Then you will understand why we have and hold such a large volume of trade.

A line of quality Groceries.
Shoes that give satisfaction.

WILLIS MORRELL.

GEN'L MOSE.

Willis Morrill, who operated the Morrill Store across the street south of the present Legion Hall, traded his store to Herman Mast in 1916 for Mast's residence, automobile, and the balance in cash. In August 1918, Mast moved to the Dulake building formerly occupied by the Cash Store. In September he purchased the remaining groceries in the stock of the Washburn and Co. and moved it to his store. In May 1922, Mast purchased the Bakery Mercantile Co. bankrupt stock and also moved it to his store. Then in July 1922, Herman Mast purchased the Home State Bank building from C.S. Goodrich and moved into the living quarters upstairs. In March 1923, he bought the Farmers Union store out, moved the stock and

CASH SPECIALS FOR THE WEEK END

Sugar, 20 lbs. for	\$1
Large can Pork and Beans, 2 for	19c
Oval can Sardines, 3 for	25c
Round can Sardines, 6	25c
Quart jar Dill Pickles	15c
No. 10 can Peaches and No. 10 can Black- berries, for	79c
Noodles, Spaghetti and Macaroni, 6 pkgs.	25c
Dried Apricots, 2 lbs.	25c
Corn, 4 cans for	25c
PPP, Standard A and Gold Coin Flour.	
New Voile and Print Dresses Unbleached Muslin, yd.	5c
36-inch fast color Prints, yard	10c

HERMAN MAST
General Merchandise
Phone 78—Goff



Wink's Store where the present Legion Hall is. Shown is Kathryn Lippincott-Kruse.

rented the building for a storeroom. His store sustained major damage in a fire on October 11, 1931, so in January 1932, Mast moved the store to the Home State Bank building along with the bank. The bank closed in 1933, leaving only the store there.

In the early forties Masts closed the store and in 1945 Crescent Lippincott rented the building and opened a store there again. He and his wife, Nola, operated the store until 1964 when they sold out at

auction and closed. This was the last business to operate in that building.

Edith Sharpe opened a new store in the Sharpe building in May 1915. This was located east of the bank just east of the alley in block 10 where the White Barn is presently located. Then later Mr. E. Bakey rented the building and opened a general merchandise business there. He

Opening Announcement MAY FIRST

We wish to announce to the people of this community that on next Saturday, **MAY 1**, we will be open and ready for business with a new and fresh line of quality groceries in the Sharpe building, east of the First National Bank.

We cordially invite everyone to visit our store and assure you our appreciation for your trade. We will endeavor at all times to give everyone a square deal. Goods will be sold for cash and on the least possible margin.

Remember this stock has been selected with the greatest care and quality is its first essential throughout.

Just a few of our specials for Saturday:

Evaporated Apricots	2 lbs. for	25c	Sweet Potatoes, 2 cans	25c
Dried Peaches, lb.	10c	Oysters, 3 cans	25c	
Tomatoes, 3 lb. can 3 for	25c	Salmon, 3 cans	25c	
Peas, 3 cans for	25c	Boston Baked Beans, 3 lb. can, 3 for	25c	

New Potatoes for Saturday.

Don't fail to try our Elbow Macaroni.

We are agents for Butterick Patterns. Order here. All who have previously subscribed for The Delinquent will get them at our store.

We cordially invite all our old friends and many new to visit us at our store and assure you fair treatment.

E. E. SHARPE & CO.

THE FARMERS' CASH STORE.

We will pay highest market price at all times for produce.

WEEK END SPECIALS FOR CASH

Sausage, 3 lbs.	25c
Boiling Meat, 3 lbs.	25c
Roast, lb.	10c
Brookfield Creamery Butter, lb.	23c
Crackers, 2-lb. box	19c
No. 3 Pork and Beans, 3 for	35c
No. 2 corn, 3 cans	25c
No. 3 Kraut, 2 cans	25c
Print House Dresses, fast color	50c up

Remember we carry a complete line of Groceries and a good selection of Quality General Merchandise. See our stock before you buy and let us quote you prices.

S. STIE MERCANTILE
Phone 80

went bankrupt in 1922 and Herman Mast bought the merchandise. Edith then ran a kind of greenhouse business from the Sharpe Garage just to the east. Then in January 1923, Jacob Langley rented the building and opened a dry goods, shoes and clothing store. It was known as "Langley's Bargain Store". The Bargain Store sold out in that same year and C. Boozikee from Wetmore rented the building for a general merchandise store. In March of 1924, he moved the business to Bancroft and in September Stie and Aldeen opened a general merchandise store there. Salem Stie then took over Aldeen's interest. At a sheriff's sale in November 1934, Stie

purchased the old Dulake corner store building for a bid of \$550. Since this building was where Mast's fire was, he tore off the top story and part of the back was torn down. A new roof was put on the first story and a new ware room was built on the back. The entrance was changed to the center of the north side with large show windows. The entire building was given a coat of yellow stucco. He then moved his business from the Sharpe building in April 1935. After Stie's death his wife, Ethel, continued to run the store for a number of years. She sold the building to George Bryan in

REAL COFFEE

Absolutely Free!

To Open, Just Turn the Key

ACROPOLIS

"The Cream of the Best"

COFFEE



The VACUUM Pack

Keeps the Goodness Intact, so that

"EVERY DROP IS A DROP DELICIOUS"

**For One Week Only, Saturday,
May 19th, to Saturday, May 26,
Three Pounds at Regular Price
One Extra Pound Free**

Anticipate your needs. No danger of staleness as the Vacuum Container keeps the Fresh Roasted Flavor indefinitely.

Come Early as our supply on above offer is limited.

Boozikee's

**We will give 14 lbs. of Sugar for
\$1 with each \$5 purchase.**



Inside Stie's store on the south side of the highway. Salem Stie and Mrs. Mahler by the bananas.



Inside Lippy's store in the old Home State Bank building. Pictured is Crescent Lippincott. Picture was taken in the forties.

April 1962, and he opened a grocery store there called the R & H Market, named after his sons Robert and Harold. He closed the store in the late seventies and sold the building in January 1980 to Gus and Avis Freed. They remodeled the building with the help of the community. They tore off the old stucco on the outside and covered it with red and white colored metal and put a new suspended ceiling in the inside with new lighting. They operated a grocery store there until the building caught fire in July 1986 and burned to the ground.

In 1939, Harold "Wink" Collier purchased the grocery and meat department from Elmer Jordan, the John Deere dealer, and moved it to the old Post Office building just to the east across the alley. He added a room on the back for more space. He ran

CHEESE	2-lb. box	57c
HERSHEY'S COCOA	1 lb.	19c
BAKING SODA	1-lb. box	8c
ANNA DALE MILK	2—14 1/2-oz. cans	17c
CLIMALENE	2-lb. box	21c
FRESH TOMATOES	1-b.	11c

Bring Us Your Soap Coupons

We Reserve the Right to Limit Quantity

WINK'S FOOD STORE

Phone 58

Delivery at 9:00 A. M.

the store there until 1958 when he sold it to Oliver Jones who, in a few months, sold it to William McConnaughey. They ran it a short time, then sold out. Collier sold the building in 1965 to Leonard Nissen who ran a television business there. Then in June 1969, Nissen sold out to Rayford Schmid. He later closed the shop and in February 1972 sold the building to the American Legion who still occupy it. They remodeled the building, putting in bathrooms, a kitchen and suspended ceiling. Then in 1989, they put on a new gabled roof.



Lippy's grocery delivery van, taken in the forties. Pictured are C. Lippincott and Kathryn.

I am sure there were other stores in Goff over the years which I do not have listed. See also *Leeper Hardware*.

BARBERSHOPS

The first barbershop in Goff was run by Ara Hart and was about where it is yet today, just north of the present fire station. In 1900, Bud Elliott became the barber and in 1901 H.F. Smith took over and named it the "Enterprise Barbershop".

J.H. Groves and Andrew Morrill took over in 1903, then came W.L. Forrest who named it the "Regent Barbershop". He sold the shop to Howard Franks in 1919, and Franks installed a shoe shiner. He had a fellow by the name of Rankin who

The Regent Barber Shop

W. L. Forrest, Prop.

A bright sanitary shop which extends to the public all of the accommodations of an up-to-date tonsorial establishment. We appreciate your business.

barbered with him. In May 1921, Jesse Bradley purchased the shop fixtures and business from Franks and Mr. Rankin stayed on with Bradley. William Hawley, Jr. began working in the shop that same year along with carrying mail, then in June 1923 Ray Pittinger became a barber along with Bradley. Jesse's brother, Walter Bradley, bought half interest in the Regent Barbershop in June 1926. They remodeled in 1928 and added a beauty shop run by Hettie Tolliver. They also changed the name to "Bradley Brothers Crystal Barber and Beauty Shop". Bradley Brothers purchased the Corning barbershop in December 1928 and Jesse moved there to run that shop.

CRYSTAL BARBER AND BEAUTY SHOP

Phone 24—Goff

Satisfactory Barber Work
and Courteous Treatment
Walter Bradley, Master Barber.

Best of Beauty Work. Permanents \$5
and other prices in proportion.
Alma Clelland, Operator.

Cecil Quinn and Earl Ewing opened the "White Way" barbershop in 1926 in the Commercial Hotel building. That same year Ewing bought Quinn out and William Lair worked with him. Ewing left in 1936 and went to work for the state vehicle department. Walter Bradley then moved his shop into the Ewing barber-shop in the west end of the Hotel. Later he moved back to the original barbershop building.

After Bradley's death in July 1962, Harlan "Blondie" Gibson ran the shop for a few months. Rex Shumaker purchased the shop in the fall of 1963 and still barbers there one day a week.



Present barber shop, taken in 1990

BEAUTY SHOPS

There were a number of different beauty operators in Goff over the years so I will name only a few. Hettie Tolliver was a beauty operator in the Bradley barbershop when they expanded in 1928, then Lily Holliday in 1930 and Ruth Clelland became an operator there in November of that year. After Bradley moved the barbershop to the hotel, Mae Davis opened a Beauty Shop in that location. then in 1942 Evelyn Molineaux and Eleanor Vernon ran the "Crystal Beauty Shop" in Horlock's Commercial Hotel. Jo Ann Hollis presently has a beauty shop in Goff. It is located in her home on the west side of West Street at the north end of the street.

THE GREAT WHITE WAY

At a meeting held in Frankfort on May 15, 1914, the "Great White Way" was established through Kansas. It ran along the Central Branch of the railroad from Atchison to Clyde. There it joined the "Great Kansas White Way" in a cross state road to Denver. After the White Way was established it began to be referred to as Main Street where it ran through Goff. In March 1922, A.E. Blackney and Everett Lindsey started working on marking the route. They rigged up on "Auto Home" furnished with kitchen and sleeping quarters. They took the contract to mark every other telephone pole from Chicago to Colorado Springs, a distance of 1161 miles. They made fifteen cent per pole and the White Way association bought the paint. This is from the Frankfort Index, "The Great White Way was the only completely organized highway passing through Missouri and Kansas". In the fall of 1922, the temporary bridges between Goff and Wetmore were replaced with modern concrete culverts. The total cost of the fifteen was \$15, 440.90. Then in 1926 a new bridge was built just west of the depot across Spring Creek and at that time the channel was straightened. In 1928 the highway was changed from running south just west of town to running in a southwest direction, to the Crane Corner, presently Highway 62 Junction, two miles from Goff. This cut directly

across the Bayard Taylor farm (see *Mary Powell*). They started graveling the road in 1930 going from Goff to Centralia and east to Netawaka to connect with Highway 75. The improvements in the right of way and curb and gutter work was done through Goff along the Highway in 1933. All the cement was mixed here for the curbs and sidewalks and the water mains had to be lowered when the grade was cut through town. The State paid for the concrete curbs and sidewalks and Horlock lowered the water mains. The highway was oiled in 1933 going through Goff on October 9 to 11. This Great White Way had become designated as State Highway No. 9.

WHITEWAY CAFE

The Whiteway Cafe was located across the street east of the present E & L on the corner. In 1914, the Beam brothers bought the restaurant from W.D. Wollard and named it the Whiteway Cafe. They sold it to Mr. and Mrs. W.M. Plummer. In October 1919, E.A. Dunnick purchased the Cafe from the Plummers. Later it was owned by Julia Wesley who sold it to the manager of the Van Noy Interstate Hotel and Eating House, J.R. Ward, in August 1920. Ward changed the name to the Ever Eat Cafe, then in November 1921 Plummer purchased the cafe again and changed the name back to the Whiteway Cafe.

**“White Way”
Cafe**
**Both Quality
and Quantity**

Short orders
at all hours.

Home Made

Ice Cream,
Cold Drinks,
Candy and
Cigars.

We have the

**FRANKFORT BONIFAS
BREAD**

Try one of our popular
25 cent Meals

BEAM BROS.
PROPRIETORS

E.A. Beam, who ran a bakery in Wetmore, purchased it from Plummer in February 1922. He ran the bakery in conjunction

with the cafe. Later R.I. Freeman ran the restaurant and it caught fire and burned to the ground on Wednesday morning, June 3, 1925. This building was built on the Home State Bank corner in the early eighties for a drug store by Charley Younkman. It was later moved to the

location on the corner west. William Plummer then opened a cafe and named it the Whiteway Cafe in the Commercial Hotel.

Thanksgiving Dinner, 40c

Stuffed Baked Goose with Gravy

Roast Chicken

Celery Dressing

Mashed Potatoes

Parker House Rolls

Spiced Apples

Candied Yams

Pickled Beets

Brick Ice Cream and Devil's Food Cake

or Pumpkin Pie a la Mode

Coffee

Tea

Milk

Jepson's Cafe, Goff



Jepson's Cafe, where the present cafe is located, taken in 1948.

He served short orders and lunches; it was later purchased by Mr. and Mrs. Guy Jepson. In the forties the Jepsons bought the old Harley Holiday Service Station on the east side of town where the highway turns south and remodeled it into a restaurant and moved his cafe there. Later there were various owners, the present being Julia and Daryl Linneman. It is now known as the D. & J. Cafe.



D & J Cafe, taken in 1990

THE OWL CAFE

In March 1917, J.G. Hendershot and wife of Wetmore moved to Goff and opened a "neat little restaurant" and short order business just north of the Rust Pool Hall south of the Hotel on the west side of Stahl Street, and in May 1918, they moved to the Hays Building, first door south of the Hotel. As Herman Henery relates to me, in Jess Hendershots own words, he actually started out there by buying ice cream by the gallon wrapped in burlap, packed it in ice and would sell it by the cone at five cents each. In November 1920 they moved to a location on the east side of the street across from the fire station where Gerald Moore has his shop. They called it the "Owl Cafe". In October they built their new restaurant, a hollow tile and stucco building 20 x 30 feet. They used the frame building

EATS and DRINKS
Prompt and Handy

The busy little cafe just opposite the Theater in Goff
Ice Cold Beer and
all Cold Drinks

Lunches, Short Orders
Cigars and Candies

STEELE and HAWKINS

SPECIAL CANDY SALE **Saturday, May 26, Only**

The New Ten-Der Gum Drops
Jumbo Roasted Peanuts
Monarch Chocolates

All at per lb. 20C

These are all guaranteed strictly fresh goods.
The greatest bargain of the year.

The Owl Cafe

J. G. Hendershot

Ma's Lunch

Mrs. C. C. Hawkins

just to the south for living quarters. After Hendershot closed, the building was never used for any business again.

Bairds Hamburger Inn, across the street from the Family Theatre, in present Handley Park, was opened in 1930 as a sandwich shop. It closed in 1934 and Ray Ingalls moved the building to his farm west of town in 1938.

In the thirties Handleys built a lunch stand across the street from the present White Barn in Handley Park. In 1936 they sold it to George Tolliver. In January 1937, thieves broke in and stole

two slot machines. Then in September Arley Steele and C.C. Hawkins took over and built a kitchen on the back to give more room. This place became known as "Ma Hawkins". It was quite an active place when the plant was operating and on Saturday nights.

In a little building just west of Corwin's Drug Store, C.E. Mahler had a cream buying station in 1913. Then in May 1923, he sold out to F.A. Corwin from Corning. They offered a lunch and short order along with the fountain confectionery store. It was called the "Victory".

The **GOFF SANDWICH SHOP**

Opposite the Family Theatre In Goff,
Hot Vegetable and Chili Soups.
Ice Cold Bottled Drinks. Lunches of
All Kinds.
Let Us Serve You!

J.H. Clark rented the Corwin Drug Store fixtures in 1920 and opened a popcorn and ice cream parlor. He had a machine for making "Krispities", a confection similar to popcorn balls. He also ran the soda fountain.



Cold Drinks for Hot Days

Real thirst quenchers.
On the ice all the time.

COCA COLA
GREEN RIVER
ORANGE CRUSH
BUDWEISER
ROOT BEER
GINGER ALE

and all popular flavors

Mahlers



Cafe in Commercial Hotel, taken in 1948

GARAGES

J.L. Shumaker ran a wagon and buggy repair shop and operated a feed mill on the corner of Second and Abbott Streets. In 1915, he built a flour mill and feed mill just south of his wagon shop. The building was 20 by 30 feet and 21 feet high with two stories. This building was in block 14 on the south side of the present highway. The Goff Flour Mill ground its first flour in October 1915. It was called the "Nemaha County White Rose Flour". In May 1922, Shumaker rebuilt his building into an office and sales room and took the dealer agency for

Chevrolet motor cars. In October Earl Dickson, blacksmith, purchased the Shumaker mill and moved it to the corner lots of his property, which was east of the Henry Brother's station where the Doctor's office is, and equipped it for a blacksmith and machine

shop. J.L. Shumaker then built one of the largest garages in northeast Kansas on his lot to house the Shumaker Motor Co. It was built in an "L" shape with doors on the north and west. In 1925 he added a second story on part of the building for living quarters. W.A. Samson was a mechanic in Shumaker's garage in 1928. In 1930 W.M. Gleason leased the garage and bought most of his parts and equipment. He moved the White Way Garage there.

After the White Way Garage moved out, Munson and Hart opened the garage near the depot in 1925. Hart quit in November and H.S. Hatch took over, calling it the West End Garage. The next year it was taken over by Harry Gray and W.A. Samson ran it. They had a fire there in 1928, but saved the

WAGON AND BUGGY REPAIR WORK

I do all kinds of first class woodwork and guarantee satisfaction. My shop is equipped with the latest tools and can give you the best work at fair prices.

J. L. SCHUMAKER

BROWN SAID TO JONES

Said Brown to Jones, "Your old car rides fine, I surely wish I could say that for mine."

Said Jones, "This blamed car used to get my goat. Now, since she's fixed I know that she's some boat. The place where mine was fixed is the one for you. Take yours there and they'll send her out like new."

THE WHITE WAY GARAGE

Chevrolet Sales & Service W. M. Gleason. Mgr.
Phone 84

building. Then W.M. Gleason leased the building and moved the White Way Garage back there. In 1930 he rented the Shumaker building

and moved there. J.E. Dorman then rented the garage for his used car business and Ray Swanson and Irwin Bailey were mechanics there. In 1933, Raymond Fletchall rented the building and ran the West End Garage there. After Herman Rainey purchased the building in 1937, Fletchall purchased the



Old West End Garage in about 1934. Pictured are Raymond Fletchall and Earl Brammer.

old Rust Pool Hall, remodeled it, and moved there. Rainey completely remodeled the building to the way it looks today with an angle drive that can be

The FLETCHALL GARAGE

R. F. FLETCHALL

**Service With a Smile
Drive In or Phone 9, Goff**

entered from either street. In 1963, Eldon Mulroy and Lyle Weyer purchased the garage and named it the "E & L Standard Service." In the early seventies, Mulroy bought out Weyer's interest and continues to operate there. After Freed's store burned in 1986, they added groceries and Mulroy along with



E & L Service and Grocery operated by Eldon and Doris Mulroy, taken in 1990.

his wife, Doris, operate it now as the E & L Service and Grocery.

In 1916, Frank Reed opened an auto repair shop just north of the present City Hall. He was not in business there for very long.

In 1919, W.J. Foreman opened the tire shop just north of the present E & L Service. In 1920, DeWitt Calder and Keith Butts purchased it and named it "Calder and Butts". Shortly thereafter, George Whaley and F.W. Wade made it into a repair shop. It burned on October 14, 1924 and was a total loss.

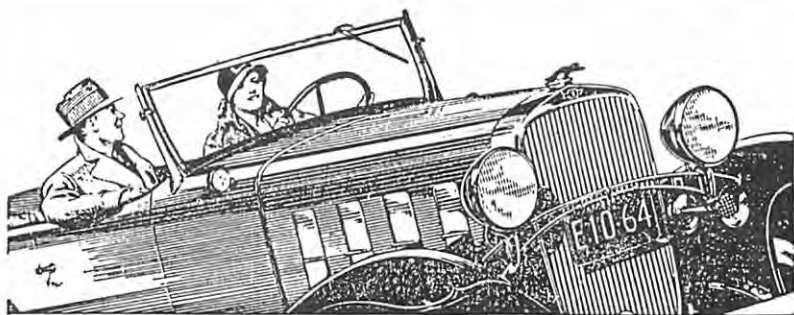


Old Rust Pool Hall and later Fletchall's garage, now owned by Roy Bell. Picture taken in 1990.

In July 1920, the Goodrench Auto Co. opened for business in the old livery barn. They did repair work of all kinds, with L.W. Rentschler as the proprietor.

In the thirties, Hugh Miller ran an auto repair and lathe work shop in the old cold storage building next to where the City keeps their equipment on the north side of First Street in block 14.

In 1915, Izaih Sharpe opened a garge just east of the Johnstone Hardware in block 10. In 1918-19 he built a new Sharpe Garage building on the southeast corner of block 10, the corner east of the bank. The building was 50 x 80 feet with 13 inch walls, large 10 foot front doors on the south and



Performance—thrills you've never had in any low-priced car

65 to 70 miles an hour . . . 0 to 35 miles an hour
in 6.7 seconds . . . Silent Syncro-Mesh gear-
shift . . . Simplified Free Wheeling . . . Unsurpassed
smoothness and quietness . . . 60 Horsepower

CHEVROLET You must drive the new Chevro-
let Six to appreciate the many
new thrills of its performance.

Take it out on the street, compete with other
cars in traffic—and understand what it means
to accelerate from a standstill to 35 miles an
hour in less than seven seconds! Hunt out
some long stretch of highway and open the
throttle to the limit—and experience the keen
joy of a top speed without stress or strain.
Travel over the roughest road you know—
and learn the advantage of its new stabil-
ized front end. Run the car throughout its
full range of speed and power—and know
the pleasure of Chevrolet's new smoothness
and quietness.

Then, try the thrill of Free Wheeling—of
gliding along on momentum in a modern
quality six—of shifting gears easily, simply,

and quietly. And finally, change back to con-
ventional gear, and try shifting gears with the
easy, non-clashing, quiet Syncro-Mesh trans-
mission—which is exclusive to Chevrolet in
the lowest price field.

Never has the actual driving of a Chevrolet
Six meant so much as it does today. Come into
our showrooms—without delay. Try out the
Great American Value for 1932. Faster,
livelier, smoother than ever—easier to handle
and control—it gives performance-thrills
you've never had in any low-priced car!

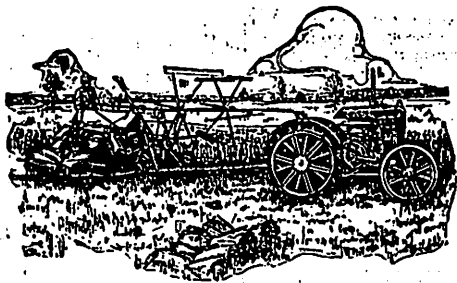
PRICED AS **\$475**
LOW AS

All prices f. o. b. Flint, Michigan. Special equipment extra.
Low delivered prices and easy G. M. A. C. terms. Chevrolet
Motor Company, Detroit, Mich. Division of General Motors

NEW CHEVROLET SIX THE GREAT AMERICAN VALUE FOR 1932

SEE YOUR DEALER BELOW

W. M. GLEASON, Goff, Kansas



We sell everything in the Case Line of Tractors and Power Farm Implements. If interested, don't fail to talk with us before buying.

The Sharpe Garage Everything for the Auto

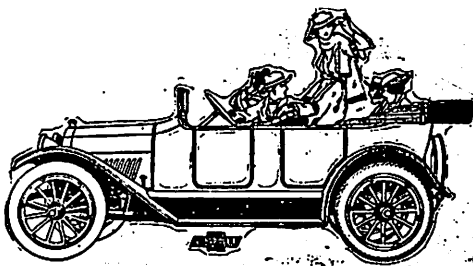
later he sold it to W.J. Groves.

See also *White Way Garage*, *Family Theatre*, *Goff Advance*, and the *Post Office*, who each occupied this building in later years.

THE WHITE WAY GARAGE

In March of 1915, J.E. Dorman went to Kansas City and purchased three Monroe automobiles of the roadster type and took the agency for the south half of Nemaha County. The Monroe had twenty-two horsepower and sold for \$640. In September 1917, Mr. Dorman took the dealership for Chevrolet cars. These were the first Chevys

another door in the northeast corner on Abbott Street. There were two 12 x 14 foot plate glass windows in the front and a roof of 50 foot steel girders. It opened April 21, 1919. He became an agent for the J.I. Case farm machinery. In September 1924, Wilbur Hawk purchased the building and one week



Chevrolet:

Monroe Roadster - - - \$540
No. 490, five passenger - - \$525

Oakland Six \$845

110 inch Wheel Base, Demountable Rims, One Man Mohair Top. Cars all electrically equipped.

J. E. Dorman

Local Agent for South Nemaha County.

sold in Goff. In 1918, a 490 sold for \$745, a Baby Grand for \$1,060, and an eight cylinder sold for \$1,650. In September 1919, Noah Cooley purchasd the Chevrolet agency from Dorman and in April 1923, Dorman again took over.

The White Way Garage, formerly the Goff Garage, was built where the old Union Depot Hotel burned down. It was managed by F.W. Hay, then operated by Clifford Jerome and Ira Freel. A new building was built by H.S. Hatch in 1916. He also had owned the old Union Depot Hotel which burned in 1915. In February 1917, Clifford Jerome accepted the agency for the Overland automobile and in June 1918, he secured the agency for Oldsmobile. In April 1919, he secured the agency for Fordson tractors and had three of them on hand.

AUTOMOBILE OWNERS

Work on automobiles will be done from now until March 15, 1915, at 40c per hour or overhauling cars on contract at a discount. Work guaranteed. Bring your car in and I will look it over or tell me the trouble and I will arrange it with you satisfactory to bring your car in.

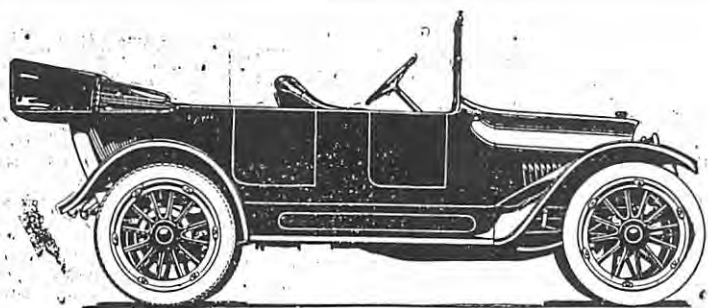
Bruhn's Garage, Goff, Kansas.

Gasoline and Oils Phone No. 18.

In 1917, the White Way Garage was sold to Clyde Thoren and Ronald Pinick and in April 1918, it was sold to Clyde Cozad then sold back to Clifford Jerome that same year. In the meantime, Jerome had sold his cars and

tractors out of there since he had kept the agency. In September 1919, Mr. Jerome secured the agency in this section for the Dodge automobile. Then on December 1 of that same year, Grover Titman purchased the White Way Garage from Jerome, however, Jerome kept the dealership for Fordson tractors and Dodge cars. Then he purchased the Ford garage in Seneca and the Fordson agency went to Don Cole in Wetmore.

In September 1920, Titman sold the garage to D.W. Calder. The White Way Garage was sold at a mortgage sale on October 4, 1921 and the business was bought by J.S. Sourk, one of the creditors. Charles E. Bentley of Sabetha purchased the garage in February 1922. In November of that year, Howard E. Corwin of Sabetha purchased it. They lived in the light housekeeping



New Reo the Fifth the Incomparable Four or Reo Six

Note the style, the graceful lines, the up-to-dateness, the big "U" doors, the very latest type of body. No sharp corners, nothing that sticks out to mar the appearance--you see refinement everywhere. If you are interested in buying a car be sure and note the specifications.

If you have not seen or received any send us a postal card and we will be glad to furnish them. Note the many improvements, the added features, the changes and high grade equipments, and then note the price and you will wonder how it is done. There is greater value in the Reos than ever before and we feel perfectly safe in saying that no other maker in the country can produce their equal and offer them at the same price.

It's a bold statement but it's true for we have examined different makes of cars and we have found that the Reos are the most perfected car of cars in workmanship and material, equipment and durability, for the price asked. The progress of the Reos has been so constant and sure that we can point to it as the best guarantee a purchaser could ask. We think that we are safe to say that every Reo owner is perfectly satisfied with his purchase. The Reo Company is ten years old and now makes all of the parts in their factory, thus saving the middlemen's profit and you get it in the quality of the car. The Reo The Fifth has been out for three full years, so you see it is not a new car to be tried out, but has been tried out to the satisfaction of every Reo owner or purchaser. Come to us and let us explain it to you thoroughly. Last of all talk to Reo owners, their experience is worth something to you. Whether you want a car now or later the time to decide is now. You will then be able to get the car when you want it.

We also have the Maxwell 25 at \$695.00, electric lights and self starter \$55.00 extra F. O. B. Detroit Mich. We will be glad to show you this car if you are not interested in so high priced a car as the Reo.

PRICES---Reo the Fifth, Incomparable Four, \$1,050; Reo the Fifth, Roadster, \$1,000; Reo Six Cylinder \$1,385, f. o. b. Lansing, Michigan.

We also have triple-filtered gasoline, motor oils and auto accessories Day or night auto livery service. Car repairing a specialty on all makes of cars.

BRUHN'S GARAGE

BRUHN & DELUDE, Props.

Phone 18

Goff, Kansas.

The Reo - the first car sold in Goff.

rooms at the Commercial Hotel. In April 1923, James E. Dorman again became the Chevrolet dealer in Goff and was located at the White Way Garage. He took charge pending a deal between the Home State Bank and William and Robert Gleason of Topeka to take over the garage. The Gleasons were cousins and had already taken charge of

the mechanical work. William Gleason had been a mechanic with Badders Motor Co. at Topeka. The advertisement called it the "White Way Garage, Gleason and Gleason". Then in the fall of 1923, it became Wm. Gleason and he sold Ford parts and repairs and was known as the "Gleason White Way Garage". In October 1924, Wm. Gleason took a partner, Emil Thieme. They leased the Sharpe building on the corner east of the bank and

for Economical Transportation



**SALES AND SERVICE
ON DISPLAY**

On next Saturday, December 29th, we expect to have on of "The Outstanding Chevrolets in Chevrolet History," a four-door Sedan on display at our garage. Don't fail to see this "Six in the Price Range of the Four."

The White Way Garage

"The shop with the equipment to do the job right."
W. M. Gleason Phone 84.

Rainey's Service

72 HOURS A WEEK

By order of Oil Coordinator Ickes this service station will be operated in the future on the following schedule:

Monday through Friday, 8 a. m. to 7 p. m.

Saturdays 8 a. m. to 8 p. m.

Sundays 8 a. m. to 12 noon

All gasolint in passenger cars is cash

We are endeavoring to make the best of present conditions and will continue to give you the best service possible under existing conditions.—H. E. Rainey.

moved the garage there. At that time Ted Rust was the Dodge dealer and sold out of the White Way Garage of Gleason and Thieme. At the end of November 1925, Wm. Gleason bought out Thieme's interest and became sole owner. In November 1925, Gleason moved the White Way Garage back to the Hatch

building on the west side of town. He became the dealer for Chevrolet cars beginning January 1, 1929. Then in January 1930, Gleason leased the Shumaker Garage and moved his White Way Garage and Chevrolet dealerships there on the east side of town on the south side of Highway #9. The dealership continued there under Gleason and later his sons. Wm. Gleason, Jr. moved to Seneca under the name of Gleason Chevrolet in 1960 and still runs the dealership there. The White Way Garage, by then known as White Way Chevrolet, Inc., closed in Goff in 1968 and Alvin and Steve Gleason moved the business to Frankfort.

Bruhn and Delude, proprietors of Bruhn's Garage actually sold the first cars as dealers in Goff. They sold the "Reo Automobile". They went out of business before 1921.

Auto Livery!

Calls answered day or night.

We carry Gasoline and Oil.

W. M. Delude

At garage just north of Union Depot Hotel or leave word at Commercial Hotel

H. F. Bruhn is in charge of Auto Repairing. All work is guaranteed.

CHURCHES

In the early days the Methodist Church held its meetings in peoples' homes. Later they met in the Fairview school building one mile north of town. Then in 1880, District 86 built a new school house and the Methodist Church started holding their meetings there. The



Methodist Church, early 1900s.

Methodist Church was organized in the spring of 1885. They purchased lots 7 and 8 in the southeast corner of block 7 from George C. Stahl for \$25 and bought lots 5 and 6, just north, for a parsonage from Thomas Berridge for one dollar and considerations. The church was dedicated in November 1885 and the first pastor was Rev. Griffis.

The Christian Church organized June 17, 1877 at the



Christian Church, early 1900s

Maple Shade School which was three and one-half miles north of Goff. On March 12, 1881, they started using the Fairview School that sat where the cemetery is located one mile north of town. Then in 1886 they started using the school building in town. It was in 1888 that they built their church building in block three. The building still stands, however, the church has been discontinued there for a number of years.

The Church of God began in Goff in the southeast part of town. They were re-organized on June 14, 1922, into the Church of the Nazarene with Rev. E.L. Duby as pastor. They then built a new church building in block 9, present Masonic hall, and moved there in the summer of 1929. This church has also been discontinued for a number of years.

In May 1920, a proposition was submitted to the churches for a federated church. Under the plan all churches could retain their identity and keep their church membership. However, all combined could afford the service of a minister most of the



Nazarene Church building in 1990, present Masonic Hall.



Tabernacle built in 1914 for Revivals and church services, one block south of the school.

time. On May 6, the proposition was submitted and was accepted by the Methodist and Christian Churches. The Holiness people voted not to join. The articles of association were written, approved, and signed by the official boards of the

two churches for an associated church on May 20, 1920.

In 1941, the Christian Church decided to go back to their own church. Then on January 6, 1941, a meeting was held at the Methodist Church and trustees were elected. In May of 1941, Rev. John Taylor came from a Boston seminary and became pastor. In 1952, a schoolhouse was purchased, moved in and attached to the west side of the Methodist Church building for more room.

Although all three church buildings are still standing today, the Methodist is the only one that is still active.

BLACKSMITHS

It was in 1879 that Gard Pickett built the first blacksmith shop in Goff at a cost of \$150. The supplies were hauled in from Sother, a railroad stop two miles east of here.

Jack Handley started blacksmithing in Dentonville, north of Goff, in 1882, and he bought out Gard Pickett and built his own shop on the lots that are used for a park today on the south side of Highway #9 in block 13. He ran the shop until he retired in August 1925. He came here from Nova Scotia, Newfoundland.

New Low Blacksmith Prices on Cash Basis

Due to the low prices of farm products we have reduced our prices in proportion and work for strictly cash.

Sharpening Listers, formerly 80c, now 55c

Sharpening Plows, formerly 75c and
80c, now 45c to 60c

Pointing Plows or Listers, formerly
\$1.75, now \$1.35

Sharpening Discs, formerly 25c a blade, now ..15c

All other blacksmith work in proportion. These prices are good until further notice. Will appreciate your work now in order that we may have it ready for you when you want it.

Earl Dickson, Blacksmith
GOFF

Nick Jacobs was a blacksmith here and sold out to B.A. Johnstone in 1919. Then in 1932, Earl Dickson of Wetmore purchased the business from Johnstone. The shop was in a brick building in block 13 about where the present bus barn is. J.L. Shumaker then built a new shop just west of the present D & J Cafe in block 14. Dickson then rented his shop to T.E.

Anders in 1928, and in 1929 Sam Munsel took over. In September 1930, the shop caught fire and burned down.

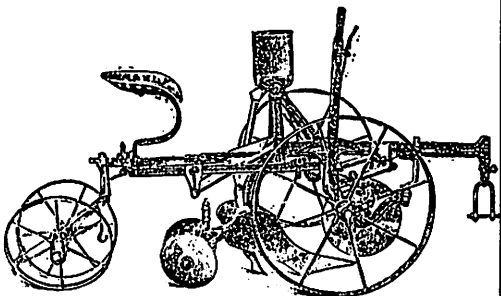
In March 1936, Edgar Munsel opened a blacksmith shop in the old Spring Valley Creamery east building on the north side of First Street in block 14. Sam Munsel purchased the shop in May 1937.

In 1938, B.A. Johnstone rented the old livery stable and opened a blacksmith shop there. He died in 1942 and the shop was then closed.

M.T. Jones built a shop across the street north of the elevator next to the alley in block 13 lot 9. He sold it to Earl Dickson and left Goff. Then in July 1936, Jones' son-in-law, William Gleason, traded for the shop and Jones came back to Goff to take over the shop. He ran it until his death and it was closed. This was to be the last blacksmith shop in Goff.

Fort Madison ..Listers..

BEFORE you buy that new lister don't fail to see the kind we sell and recommend. Ask the man who has one.



Here is the lister that has every feature, yet has not an ounce of unnecessary weight. Light of draft, yet one of the most durable and lasting listers on the market. The lister-share is positively guaranteed against breakage.

NICK JACOBS, Blacksmith.

M. T. Jones

Blacksmith

ELEVATORS

The first elevator sat across from the lumberyard about a block northwest of the present elevator, and the first elevator operator in Goff was William Kibborn. That elevator burned

down. It was on May 1, 1899, that John McManis took charge of the Goffs Grain Company and started to build up the business. There were actually two elevators in the vicinity of the present one at that time. There was one on each railroad but both were operated by McManis. He ran the business until Derby Grain Co. purchased it in 1939. They tore down the old building and built a new elevator. The old elevator that remained at that time sat on the North Western right-of-way so the new one was built on the Missouri Pacific tracks and still stands in that location. O.E. Thieme became the manager for Derby, and in 1940 Keith Baugh took over. A short time later in the early forties, Theda Volz took over as manager. She and her husband, Earl, ran the elevator for Derby until they purchased it in 1959. The Quonset building on the east side of Stahl Street was built in 1954 and the Stransteel building just to the east of the elevator was built in 1958. They sold the buildings and business to Pete Pallesen from Fairview in June 1968. He ran it for a few years

The Goffs Grain Co.

Buyers and shippers of all
kinds of Grain and Seeds.

Sells Coal, Field Seed,
Bran, Shorts, Oil Meal.

Highest Market Price Paid
for Grain.

We want your trade,

JOHN McMANIS,
Manager.

A Modern Grain and Feed Service. . . .

We will continue to supply our customers with everything the markets afford—but frankly there are some items that cannot be obtained. However, be assured of our every co-operation for the duration. We are in the market for your grain and seeds of all kinds, and still can supply you with

Derby Diet Feeds

as a first-aid to feeding Poultry, Dairy Cattle, Beef Cattle and Hogs. Forty-two years of experience in study back of every sack.

Derby Grain Co.

Keith Baugh, Mgr.

Phone 37—C

and then closed it. The Henry Brothers purchased it from Pallesen in the 1970s and use it only for their own business. Therefore an end came to the elevator business in Goff.



Grain office showing John McManis and James "Bob" Miller with old elevator which sat on the North Western right of way. Torn down in 1939.



Elevator taken in 1952 or 1953 showing the stockyards and old city well to the south.



Elevator as it appears today - 1990 - with Stranstell building on the southeast side.



EVERY SACK
is filled with
EGGS.

You cannot get eggs unless you feed your hens a ration which builds eggs within the hens. Grain alone will not do this.

SOUTHARD'S
HEN CACKLE
Egg Mash
25, 50 and 100
Lb. Bags

HEN CACKLE
Egg Mash
NEVER FAILS

Keep **HEN CACKLE** Egg Mash before hens at all times. In cold weather feed two parts of it to one of grain. In warm weather feed more Mash and less grain.

BUY A SACK



is a finely ground, dry mash of choicest egg-making, vigor building, health maintaining feeds. Easily digested—no waste. Always pure and dependable. Used and recommended by leading poultrymen.

Satisfaction or Money Back

Send for FREE
Poultry Book
80 pages, 50 pictures.
Thos. Southard Co.,
Kansas City, Kansas.



FOR SALE BY
The Goff Grain Co.



Quonset building sets about where the old livery barn was. It was built in 1954.

HARDWARES AND IMPLEMENTS

One of the first hardware stores was built in Goff by Tom Berridge on the west side of Stahl Street in block 12 in about 1882.

In 1905, Judge Alex Howland moved to Goff and engaged in the hardware business. Later, B.A. Johnstone purchased the business. On

November 2, 1916 R.C. Leeper purchased the hardware and called it the "Leeper Cash Hardware". This was on the west side of Stahl Street. In January 1918, Leeper purchasd the old Opera House building on the east side of Stahl Street south of the old fountain and remodeled it for their hardware and living quarters. Then in June, Leeper purchased the Patch building on the lower main street to use for a warehouse. In October 1922, he purchased the Wilson Hardware in Centralia and Mrs. Leeper looked after the management of both stores as Mr. Leeper still traveled for the Wyeth Hardware Co. of St. Joseph. At that time Willis Morrill opened a grocery store in the old butcher shop just on the north side of the hardware. In October 1923, Leeper built an implement room on the back of the Morrill store, which was connected to their store by a side door. They sold I.H.C. Implements and in 1929 started selling International Harvester tractors. Leeper bought a store in Holton in 1932, making them

STOVES!

The winter will soon be with us. Better get that heater up and in shape while the weather is good. We carry a good line of Heating and Cook Stoves and our prices are right. Call when in town and inspect them.

A FULL LINE of GENERAL HARDWARE.
A LINE of FARM WAGONS.

B. A. JOHNSTONE

Hardware, Tinware, Furniture.

International Line of Implements and Repairs! GET READY

for harvest season will soon
be here. You will need

Twine and Repairs--our prices the lowest, quality best.

Oil Cook Stoves

Perfection and Florence--the Florence gives a close-up, hot fire, with a minimum amount of fuel, clean, safe and satisfactory. Let us demonstrate.

Regular 60c IXX charcoal tin 12-quart Pails, at.....40c
Fully guaranteed \$1.50 Hammer, at75c

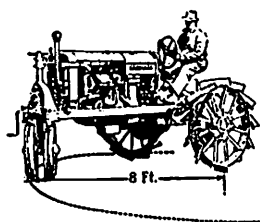
LEEPER CASH HARDWARE AND FURNITURE CO.

three stores. In 1938, they took over the Morrill store and expanded into the grocery business. Some years later after World War II they closed the Goff store and moved the merchandise to their Holton store.

In April 1914, L.N. Simon and Son traded

the hardware business in Goff to J.J. Cox and son for a farm near Burlington. They were also undertakers. Cox and son traded their hardware and implement business to Frank Prawl, including the house, for the 200 acre farm northeast of Kelly. This hardware business was located in the building just west across the alley from the American Legion Hall in block 11, lot 9. Frank Prawl declared bankruptcy in 1915 in federal court. The hardware was sold to Hobbs Hardware Co. in August 1918. It was known as Hobbs Mercantile and secured the dealership for Moline, J.I. Case, P. & O. and I.H.C. farm machinery. Then in April 1920, Trader procured the agency for John Deere Implements. Then in June he sold the store to C.J. Clikinbeard and his son-in-law, George Pfrang from Wetmore. Then L.N. Simon took over the store again in 1921. The first of February 1926, Simon sold out to W.J. Groves including the building, business, and all the groceries, meats, hardware, furniture and undertaking goods. Fred Hunt was put in charge of the usiness. The Groves were

Announcement



AGAIN WE WILL SELL FARM MACHINERY!

Our implements will be the International Harvester Co.'s. Farm-all Tractors and Tractor Tools, Single and Double Row Listers, Disc Harrows, Plows, Hay Rakes, Cultivators, Deering-McCormick mowers and many more tools.



MOLINE FARM IMPLEMENTS



Good Enuf Plows, Listers, Single and Double Row, Dandy Cultivators. The new wonderful K. A. Cultivators. WATCH your mail for a new Moline Catalogue.



Leeper Cash Co.

Goff--Two Stores--Centralia

UNDERTAKING

J. J. COX & SON
Undertaking and
Embalming.

Phones: Store 15; residence 56.
GOFF, KANSAS.

also undertakers. Then in January 1927, Elmer Jordan purchasd the business and Inventory from Groves. Jordan also took over the John Deere agency and undertaking business. From November 1928 to August 1919, Jordan sold five train-car



OUR WAGONS WON'T WORK YOUR HORSES TO DEATH. THEY RUN LIGHT.

THEY WERE MADE OF STRONG, TOUGH, SEASONED WOOD AND WILL STAND THE ROUGHEST WEAR.

IF YOU BUY A WAGON FROM US AND ANYTHING GOES WRONG WITH IT, DRIVE UP IN FRONT OF OUR STORE AND SEE IF WE DON'T MAKE GOOD.

OUR HARNES IS SERVICEABLE, STRONG AND GOOD LOOKING. IT IS ALSO PRICED LOW.

J. J. Cox & Son

*Hardware, Implements,
Furniture, Undertaking Goods.*

loads of John Deere tractors. In 1948, Francis Zelfer purchased the business and hardware from Jordan. Then in August 1953, Zelfer sold the John Deere business to Robert Sourk and sold the hardware stock at an auction. In about 1960 or 1961, Sourk moved the John Deere business to Holton. This ended the era of Implement businesses in Goff.

Edward Nonnast opened a hardware store in 1955 in the old shoe shop building on the west side of Stahl Street between the hotel and barbershop. Then in about 1961 he moved to the location of the present American Legion Hall on the north side of the highway. He had a

stroke and sold out at auction about a year later. This was the last hardware store located in Goff to this date.

When You Positively Know

That we guarantee to meet competition of any kind, regardless of price, you are safe in trading here at any and all times.

Special Sale on Work Shirts and Overalls for Saturday....

Burlington special Overall, best grade, reg \$2.00.. **\$1.89**

Burlington, Regular 220 Reg. \$1.85..... **\$1.69**

Work Shirts, heavy Reg \$1.00 **79c**

Unionalls, best grade Reg \$4.00..... **\$3.49**

Lay in your summers supply at a real price.

For every \$2 purchase in any department we will give 10 lbs. Sugar for..... **\$1.00**

Corn, 3 cans for..... **25c**

Peas, 2 can..... **25c**

Lima Beans, 3 cans..... **25c**

Best Grade Perfection Flour **\$1.85**

Big C Flour..... **\$1.75**

NuWay Flour..... **\$1.65**

Oranges, per doz..... **20c**

Grape Fruit, 4 for..... **30c**

Strawberries, pts..... **15c**

Strawberries, qts..... **25c**

Bananas, per lb..... **10c**

Hardware, Furniture and Implements:

Best grade Outside White Paint, per gallon..... **\$2.95**

Barn Paint, Red, per gallon **\$1.75**

Fixall Paints and Varnishes, all colors and sizes.

Congoleum Rugs.... **\$15.00** Duralun, per yard... **75c**

12 foot Linoleum, per yard..... **95c**

'Phone **SIMON & SON** HIGHEST
No. 75 PRICE FOR PRODUCE.

SERVICE STATIONS

In 1926, Charley Hart purchasd the lot where the old White Way Cafe had burned and built a filling station there.

WHITE ROSE GASOLINE

**in both Ethyl and Royal.
We offer you a complete
filling station service.**

R-B OIL CO.—GOFF

the first of March 1933. Then in December 1937, Howard Holland opened a Standard Service Station there after Rainey moved to the West End Garage across the street. Holland operated but one week and then Irvin "Dick" Bailey took over. Bailey closed the station in December 1942, due to the gas rationing and limited service station commodities available due to World War II.

In March 1929, W.O. Holliday rented the Edward Fish Frame property just north of the Rust Pool Hall, on the west side of Stahl Street, and opened a filling station. He handled Skelly products. In 1938, Paul Altenhofen took over the station from Holliday and called it "Paul's Service Station". This closed in 1940. It was later opened by George Hittle and closed after his death in 1951.

In 1930, Harley Holiday

This was lot 9, block 11 across from the present E & L Service. This was the first true service station established in Goff. It was called the R & B Oil Co., or Bartley Oil Co. They started a delivery truck for town and country. Herman Rainey leased the station starting



FREE AIR

I THINK THE UNKINDEST CUT OF ALL, IS IN THE TIRE

Tire cuts are especially hard luck just now, but along with our complete station service, you'll find our tire and tube repair costs at a minimum.

**Bailey's Standard Service
Phone No. 2**

built a new Super Service Station on the east side of town where the present D & J Restaurant is located on the corner of

CONOCO

Gas, Oils and Greases
of high quality.

Batteries, Tires, Tubes
Tire Repairing.

Phone 54 for Country Service

W. O. Holliday Service
Station

the highway. It had living quarters in the back. He sold out to Pool Oil Co. but still managed the station. In June 1935, O.E. "Babe" Thieme took over. It was closed in the forties and the Jepsons remodeled it into a restaurant.

In March 1934, the Sabetha branch of Sinclair Oil Co. built a new filling station on the Earl Dickson corner, present site of the doctors office, on the east side of town. David Potts contracted to run the station called "Potts' Service Station". In August 1936, Potts sold out to Carl Smith, and the station closed in 1940.

In the fall of 1936, John Koch and L.E. Skinner of Sabetha built, or really remodeled a house into a service station on the east side of town on the north side of the highway. H.R. Kirk managed the station and it became the Soverign Service Station with Skelly products. In December

1935, Harry Massey became the manager and it became the Kansas Petroleum Co. In January 1980, the Henry Brothers purchased the station and presently operate it.



Front of Holiday Filling Station. This is part of the present D & J Cafe. Shown are Columbus "Clum" and Anna Houston. Taken in 1940 or 1941.



Henry Brothers Station on the north side of the highway at east end of town. Pictured is Francis Henry. Taken in 1990.

STANDARD OIL

The Standard Oil Co. and the City of Goff agreed on a site for a warehouse, tanks and other buildings. Ordinance number 79 provided for its location between the Missouri Pacific and Kansas City Northwestern tracks southeast of the Interstate. Construction was started on July 22, 1920 and finished in August. There were two big tanks of 22,000 gallons each for coal oil and gasoline. It opened in October with Ray Pittenger in charge. This substation was built at a cost of \$5,000. The Standard Oil Station changed hands in November 1921, when Frank Garrels from Hanover took over when Pittenger went to Wetmore to manage the station there. In March 1925, L.P. Hendershot became manager after Frank Garrels resigned the position. In June 1927, Ward Gates purchased the equipment and business and became the Standard Oil agent. Then some years later, Walter Stohr became the agent. In September 1952, Lyle Weyer became the agent and he later purchased the tanks and equipment. He sold

HARLEY'S SERVICE STATION

The East End Service Station.

SKELLY GASOLINE

Aromax and Refractionated

**T A G - O - L E N E
OILS AND GREASES**

**FIRESTONE
TIRES AND TUBES**

**Car Laundry and Grease Rack, Tire
and Tube Repairing and Complete
Station Service**

out in March 1986 to the Nemaha County Co-op. They removed the tanks, thus ending the Standard Oil business here.

LUMBERYARDS

The lumber business was in full swing, E.B. Abbott had shipped in and sold twenty-five cars of lumber in the six months ending July 1888. This was formerly owned by Tom Berridge and located on lot 8, lock 10, the corner east of the bank. Burt Rucker later had a lumberyard and sold it to Oliver Munson in 1896. This was located on the west side of town on the south side of Second Street in block 12. In 1898, E.E. Holston purchased the lumber business from Munson and along with his brother-in-law, C.E. Friend, built a thriving buiness, known as Friend and Holston. By 1916, the yard had grown to cover half a block. In 1937, they remodeled and built a new front on the building that is still there today. After E.E. Holston's death in 1941, H.F.

If You Want Advice on a Silo

as to whether or not it will pay you to build one ask some fellow who has used one for a year.

They are the strongest endorser of ensilage feeding.

We've kept pace with this silo business from its start and the

'Common Sense' Silo

we are selling today, we believe is about perfect. Come in and talk it over.



**Friend & Holston
Lumber Company**



The old lumber yard building, taken in 1990.

Hightower of Centralia became the manager. In the fifties, Robert Sourk purchased the lumberyard building and moved the John Deere business there. It is presently owned by the Henry Brothers who use it for their own use.

Goff Transfer Line

A. L. Merritt, Prop.

We want to do your dray work on a satisfactory basis. We are on the job all the time. Phone No. 103 night or day.

DRAY AND TRANSFER

LINE

The first dray was run by Andy Cobb in 1883. In 1913, the Goff Dray and Transfer Line was operated by H.A. Sauers. He sold out to George Sauers in 1917, who sold out to S.B. Shaw in January 1918. He in turn sold out to C.E. Furst in March, and Furst sold out to McCrann and Gill in 1919. In

1922, W.H. Cooley took over the line and in 1923 A.L. Merritt purchased the transfer line. He sold out to D.W. McCoy who also purchased the dray line from Cooley and combined the two. R.L. Cox purchased it in 1925, and in 1929 it became Simeno and Merritt, the City Dray. Then in October, A.L. Merritt bought out his brother-in-law, H. Simeno, then sold out in December to the Fowler brothers, Vivian and Lewis, then Vivian took over in 1930. The Goff Transfer and Dray Line was bought by W.H. Roach and Will Miller in 1931, and sold to H.A. McKellips in 1933. It had a

CITY DRAY !

I am running a dray in Goff and am ready at any time to give you satisfaction.

I will appreciate your work in this line and am well equipped to do all kinds of dray work.

Prices Reasonable. W.F.

Phone 3 on 27

E. E. THORNTON

number of different operators over the years until the railroad ceased operation.

SHOE AND HARNESS

In 1916, J.E. Chadwick operated a harness and shoe repair shop just north of Sourk's drug store, about where the driveway now is for the bank. In 1923, B.Y. Bristow took over the shop.

O.S. Bunce had a shoe shop just south of the drinking fountain on the east side of Stahl Street. He sold it to S.A. Billinger in 1922, and in October Billinger moved across the street west in the old Hays building. He then sold the business back to Bunce in 1923. Sam Monhollan took over the shoe and harness shop in November 1923. In 1924, Ray Monhollan purchased the harness and shoe repair business and equipment of John Candrea and moved in with his father. When Sam Monhollan died, about 1933, Edward Fish took over the shop and in 1934 Roscoe Davidson took over from Fish and added electrical repairing to the business. In April 1936, Jack Thompson took over the shoe shop and was the last shoe and harness repairman in Goff.

Special Prices

Men's Sewed Half Soles
and Heels\$1

Ladies Half Soles and
Heels75c

Harness Oiled, only90c

Our location is first door
south of Commercial Hotel
in Goff.

**BAIRD'S SHOE AND
HARNESS SHOP**

ELECTRIC SHOE and HARNESS SHOP

Located first door south of Commercial
Hotel. Satisfactory work in all lines of
Shoe and Harness Repairing. We will
appreciate your work.

Sam Monhollen

Thompson Shoe & Harness Shop

J. F. Thompson

HATCHERY

In July 1929, Meredith Hawk, of Effingham, rented the Gaylord building across from the post office, present Legion Hall, and started a hatchery. He purchased the building in 1930 and in 1931 their big incubator could hold three and a half tons of eggs at one time. They operated a hatchery here for a number of years before closing it. the building was torn down in 1970.

ICE

In addition to the poultry plant and other concerns, the family of Nick Henery at the west side of town, present home of Gerald Moore, sold and delivered ice. Their ice house was built in 1922, near the tracks west of the house. They also hauled ice from Holton for delivery in Goff.



Old Farmers Union Building was the last place that bought poultry and eggs in Goff. Last produce buyer was Bernard Hittle.

location that was the Collin's place at the northwest edge of town and made into a residence.

The Kirschbraum Poultry House was located next to the railroad just west of the present E & L Service on the west side

ICE! ICE!

Morning Delivery.



Jack Henery
the iceman

POULTRY, EGG AND CREAM BUYING STATIONS

In May 1896, the creamery started operating across the bridge west of town on the north side of the road. It proved to be a thriving business for a number of years. After it ceased to operate, the building was sold and bought by J.W. Hawley, who moved it to a

of town. They employed eight or ten people and shipped eggs and poultry by the train car loads. They also had an ice house. H.F. Hinds arrived in Goff in 1898 and took over the Aaron Poultry Co., located on the south end of Stahl Street on First Street. he took over as manager of Kirschbraum in 1901. This business was closed after the Hanna Poultry Plant was opened and Hanna bought the building for storage and had it torn down in 1939.

In April 1901, Swift and Co. opened a poultry and egg establishment in Goff with R.E. Webster of Holton as manager.

In 1916, S.B. Owsley purchasd the cream-buying station just east of the First National Bank from Clyde Berridge. He sold out to Harry Hailey in 1927. Owsley may have operated somewhere else in the town later.

The Goff Poultry and Egg Co. purchased the old Kirschbraum building on the west side of town and A.B. Cooley managed it. When Hanna purchased that building, Cooley moved to the old I.O.O.F. building just east of the bank. C.C. Hawkins took over, then in 1937 Ray Dean Coffelt.

The Goff Farmers Union Co-op Association had a poultry, egg and cream buying station south of the barbershop. Mr.

**OWSLEY WANTS YOUR
CREAM; POULTRY AND
EGGS.**

Highest cash prices paid at all
times. Call often. Telephone 7.



We also sell the "EVERLAY" line of
Poultry Feeds--Dry Mash and Scratch
Feed for laying hens and same for
little chicks.

S. B. OWSLEY

Lightbody was the manager followed by Willis Morrill in 1922. They also sold groceries and other merchandise. They sold out the merchandise to Herman Mast in 1923. Then Flock had a produce buying station there in 1926. In March 1934, A.B. Cooley purchased the building and returned to the business of buying poultry, eggs and cream. Bernard Hittle was the last to operate a station there.

The Armour Cream Station was located just north of Sourk's Drug Store, the present bank, in 1926. It was managed by H.K. Bron, then Henry Cooley in 1927. Then in 1928, Mrs. Ella Fifer operated the DeCoursey Cream Station at that location.

After the poultry plant closed in 1949, some local people got Seymours to open a poultry and egg station here. They started in the old I.O.O.F. building just east of First National Bank building. They had a fire there in 1952, and they moved to the old Sharpe Garage building on the corner east of there. Lester Terry then became

**I WANT YOUR
Eggs, Poultry and Cream**

Highest market price paid at all times. Phone No. 7 for prices.

C. BERRIDGE,
First door east of Cash Store

manager. They had two routes and about a dozen employees. They bought cream, eggs and poultry and sold Blair feeds. They also candled and graded eggs. After Terry died in 1959, Robert Keehn took over buying for Seymours. He operated two routes until George Barrett quit, then he took over that route along with his. They also quit grading eggs. He closed the station in 1968.

Bernard Hittle started buying eggs and poultry after Keehn



**GOFF
POULTRY CO.**



We pay the highest market price for your

CREAM, POULTRY and EGGS

Your business is appreciated. **CALL OFTEN.**

A. B. COOLEY



Manager



took over Seymour's in 1959. He had the old Farmers Union building just south of the barbershop. He also ran a truck route and Lucille Fletchall candled eggs for him part time. He closed a short time after Robert Keehn did.

After the plant closed, Emil Thieme continued buying for them and ran a truck route for a few years. He delivered them to the Atchison plant.

Thus ended an era of poultry, egg and cream business in Goff.

THE POULTRY AND EGG PLANT

It was in 1916 that a group of local citizens purchasd the south half of the plot of ground belonging to Mr. and Mrs. William Plummer, which layed along the Central Branch tracks, and presented it to Mr. G.E. Hanna from Atchison, along with a deed to the land. He also received a lease on the well in the street just to the north, which had been put down with local money in 1915. This was the first city well in Goff. They reached an agreement with Mr. Hanna whereby he was to build a poultry and egg plant on the property.

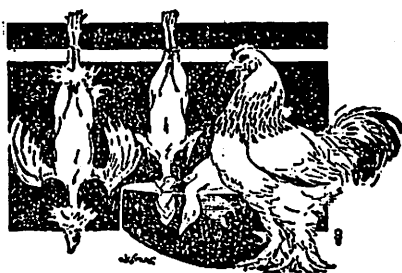
Work on the building began that same year. The main building was 68 x 130 feet resting on ninety-six cement pillars averaging five feet high, thirty inches wide at the base and eighteen inches at the top. The first room was 25 x 36 with Sharpe freezer and kept at zero or below at all times. The next



The Hanna Poultry and Egg Plant as it appeared when first built in 1917.

room was 25 x 36 and used for candling eggs. The balance of the cold storage side, 36 x 80, was used for egg cold storage and would hold twenty train carloads of eggs. On the other side was a room 28 x 16 for the egg breaking which employed, to start with, about thirty people, mostly women and girls. Next to this room was the sterilizing room, 28 x 16, for sterilizing all vessels and utensils used in the egg department. Both of these rooms were finished in white enamel paint and kept absolutely spotless and sanitary. The women wore white uniforms and caps. Next was the office sixteen feet square, and the balance of the building was the poultry department. At the start the poultry was killed and dressed here

4-pound SPRINGS



Are any of yours that heavy yet? If they are, isn't it time you started harvesting your poultry crop?

You have time—now that the grain is out of the way, and with the markets as uncertain as they are, it looks as if the wise thing to do is sell the springs as soon as they are ready for market.

Not before that, however. If your chickens aren't that heavy, the first thing to do is to be sure they aren't infested with parasites (lice, mites, and worms). Then give them all the feed they can eat—a properly balanced ration, of course, because it's quick growth you want.

If the birds are over crowded it might be best to sell a few of the heaviest ones—even if they don't weigh quite four pounds—because they've got to have room to grow. That's certain.

By all means, watch them carefully, and keep selling them—just as soon as they will tip the scales at four pounds.

The Hanna Poultry & Egg Co.

Direct Buyers of POULTRY, EGGS and CREAM.
Phone 320 Goff, Kansas.

Open Wednesday and Saturday Nights
For Your Convenience

and shipped out in car lots. Just east of the south end of the building was the machinery room, 22 x 35. Manufacturers of the machinery of this kind stated that there was nothing within five hundred miles that would compare with the equipment Mr. Hanna had purchased. Included in this was two thirty-horsepower oil engines, two twelve-and-one-half ton ammonia compressors, one air compressor and one thirty-five horsepower electric generator which provided all the lights for the different buildings. (Goff had no electricity at that time). The machinery itself cost over ten thousand dollars.

The Missouri-Pacific ran a side track between the different buildings along the south side of the main building. The products were loaded direct from cold storage to refrigerated cars.

South of the track was the ice house with a capacity of 24x40x18. The salt house and material room was also south of the track. North of the track was a forty foot water tower and a large receiving room.

In early 1917, the Hanna Co. opened a temporary business just south of the barbershop, then moved to just east of the bank until their new plant was completed. Meanwhile, the men had filled the new ice house from a dam in Spring Creek. The ice averaged 22 inches thick.

Mr. Hanna stated that he located in Goff because, "Goff is the most centrally located railroad town in northeast Kansas. It is in the heart of the best poultry and egg producing section in Kansas. It is almost halfway between Greenleaf and Atchison, also halfway between Virginia City, Nebraska and Valley Falls. This gives us four local freight trains a day, all arriving at Goff about the middle of the day allowing us to weigh the poultry and check the eggs and remit the same day as shipped. While at the Missouri River points the freight trains do not arrive until after night and the goods must be weighed and checked the next day, causing more shrink and longer to remit. We can get goods into Goff and the remittance back to our customers before the poultry is weighed up in Atchison, St. Joseph or

Kansas City."

In the last week of May 1917, the Hanna Poultry and Egg Co. started the wheels of thir new poultry plant in motion. In



Egg processing room in the Hanna Plant

the egg breaking department a score of women were employed in breaking, separating the whites from the yolk and placing them in cans ready for storage and freezing. Each lady worker was attired in a white uniform. The working tools for each consisted of six trays, to each tray a knife for breaking eggs, two glass cups to hold the whites and yolks and a metal cup just large enough to receive the yolks and allow the whites to drop a to cup below. Each egg was tested as it was broken and all stale eggs were discarded.

A large modern toilet and dressing room, a sanitary bubble fountain and faucet for those who desired and individual drinking cups, were installed. Smoking and chewing were prohibited in the work rooms. The water came from the large well just north as there were no city waterworks at that time.

By September the Hanna company was employing every woman and girl, as well as men, they could get to dry pick



The Poultry and Egg Plant as it appeared in 1948.

poultry. A competent teacher was in charge to help new employees get started. At that time they wanted twenty to thirty new people. In June 1918, the plant shipped out a carload of frozen rabbits in addition to their regular shipments. They were wild rabbits the plant had taken in. By the end of the first year the plant had handled one hundred fifty-two carloads of eggs and over one million dollars in produce. They started scalding chickens for picking in 1918 because they were unable to get a large enough work force to dry pick.

By this time there was a shortage of housing in town as the plant was the largest commercial enterprise in Nemaha County.

They closed their uptown cream buying station in January 1919, due to the fact that the Franklin Ice Cream Company started buying whole milk.

They then opened a buying station at Axtell and shipped the produce to the Goff plant to be processed. In May 1919, they added a large feeding house for poultry. The building was 54 x 130 feet and held fifteen to eighteen thousand head of live poultry. With this type of feeding they could turn out about fifteen hundred fat chickens a day. They then hired an additional five men to look after the work.

On January 24, 1918, Capioma, a small settlement north of here, had a rabbit hunt for a benefit for Red Cross. They delivered six hundred eighty cottontails and twenty-four jack rabbits to the plant. In those days there were lots of rabbits in this part of the country. By this time there were thousands of head of poultry brought to the plant daily.

They purchased the old Kirschbraum poultry building at the west end of Second Street to use for a warehouse and storage room. They had that building torn down in 1939.

In September 1920, the Hanna Company went to district court to test the industrial welfare law regulating the work hours of women. The law limited women to eight hours a day. On December 3, they won the case before Judge W.I. Stuart at Hiawatha. It was an important case because it was a test case and determined whether an order issued by the state industrial welfare commission limiting the working hours of women in factories and industrial plants to eight hours a day was fair and just.

The company purchased trucks and ran routes to bring the poultry and eggs to the plant. They shipped live poultry as well as dressed poultry and eggs in the shell as well as processed



Workers in front of the plant during World War II. You name them.

eggs. In May 1923, about three hundred fifty cases, or almost one hundred twenty-six thousand eggs were being graded daily. In June of that year, they shipped a carload of shell eggs from Goff directly to Havana, Cuba. These became yearly shipments. The cars went to Key West, Florida and from there by ship. These were the "B.O.E.", Best On Earth brand put out by the plant.

In January 1924, G.E. Hanna turned the management of the plants in Goff and Blue Rapids over to the Priebe and Sons of Chicago. Mr. Hanna took a year vacation to fully regain his health and strength without the worry of business.

According to the Butchers Advocate newspaper September 3, 1924 issue, the Prince of Whales was served chicken at Long Island, N.Y. that came from the Goff plant, "right in the center of the United States". These were milk fed chickens fed at the plant. These were the "Eatmor" brand of poultry, the finest from the plant.

By 1924, the Hanna business was about five times the volume of 1917, their first year. The ice house south of the track was converted into a feeder room. They could feed 30,000 head of chickens at a time with this improvement. The chickens were fed a mixture of buttermilk, ground corn, oats and wheat. In October they shipped 230,000 pounds of dressed poultry. During April 1926, the plant shipped out thirty-seven carloads of finished product. In ninety days they shipped out one hundred and one cars of dressed poultry, shell and frozen eggs. Three cars in April were consigned to Havana, Cuba.

Then in September 1927, the plant started buying eggs and poultry on the "grading system". On a normal Saturday in 1929, more than four hundred farmers would make deliveries of produce to the plant during the afternoon and evening.

G.E. Hanna, who established the Goff plant in 1917, retired in August 1929 and completed a deal with E.V. Bowlby, local manager, to manage all four of the Hanna plants. Goff became the home office for the corporation. Harley Reedy, of the Blue Rapids plant, became the foreman at Goff. In October,

Raymond "Stuffy" McMahon became the foreman. In 1929 and 30 they had a contract for 700 carloads of finished product from their four plats, Goff, Blue Rapids, Atchison and Horton. Due to a decline of business by November 1930, the plant was faced with losses so the workers voted to take a cut in pay to keep it open. Then in January 1931, the general offices of the plants were moved to the Atchison plant. They were Nemaha County's greatest industry, and C.H. Furst had become general manager.

In 1933 the egg breaking department was enlarged from twenty-four to thirty-six tables. The Goff plant broke eggs for all four plants. Wages for the women were fifteen cents an hour. They had thirty-two breaking eggs and a dozen candlers working in that department alone.

In December 1936, the W.P.A. painted a large airplane sign on the roof of the plant building. This sign consisted of "Goff " in large letters with arrow indicators toward Holton and Horton with distance to each of their landing fields.

Then in June 1939, the name was changed to "The Goff Poultry and Egg Co.". They were then

Clarence Furst

SAYS - - - -

We hear a lot these days about not wasting food.



DO YOU KNOW THAT
OUT OF EVERY HUN-
DRED EGGS LAID FIVE
ARE WASTED BECAUSE
THEY AREN'T TAKEN
CARE OF PROPERLY?



If we could cut out this waste we'd have more than a third of the increased production the government has asked us for this year.

Eggs are never better than when they are laid. Our job is to keep them clean and fresh until they reach the people who are going to eat them.

Because they lose freshness rapidly in the nest, the most important thing to do is to gather them at least 3 times a day. Cool them before you put them in the case and sell them as often as you can.

**GOFF POULTRY
& EGG CO.**

Phones 320 and 321

C. H. Furst, Mgr.

taken over by Priebe and Sons of Chicago.

In 1941 they had five trucks running routes and had a contract to furnish frozen eggs for the Allies. As an example, on July 3, purchases totaled thirteen million two hundred twenty pounds of frozen whole eggs, 810,000 pounds of frozen whites, and 1,583,000 pounds of dried whole eggs. They had about sixty-five employees by then and in 1943 hired about twenty more people. I am told that at their peak they employed approximately one hundred.

The first meeting about forming a union was held in August 1943 in the Jepson recreation hall. The union was voted in the plant in about 1945 despite warnings from the management that they would close it. The plant was closed in 1949, ending the greatest industry Goff would ever have. The city started to decline after this.



Henry Brothers broom cleaning plant in 1990. Sets where the poultry plant was located.

Later the elevator purchased the old plant building and used it for a fertilizer and seed plant. When the Henry Brothers purchased the old elevator the plant building was included. They tore the building down in 1988 and built a new one hundred foot metal building to house their broom cleaning operation. This business is still in operation as of this writing. They handled over two million pounds in one year recently.

FRANKLIN ICE CREAM COMPANY

The Franklin Ice Cream Company of Kansas City built a chilling plant here in 1918 to buy milk which was chilled and sent to Kansas City in iced cars. The plant was 30 x 50 feet, built of hollow tile across the street north from the Hanna plant near the well of "Never Failing Water". This was on lot 9 of block 14. They pasturized the milk except in the coldest weather. Their pasturizing machine had a capacity of 3,000 pounds per hour. The milk was shipped daily on the 12:05 North Western train. In June 1920, they were buying an average of

HIGHEST CASH PRICE FOR

Cream, Poultry and Eggs

Not only highest cash price for your Cream, Poultry and Eggs, but a guarantee of weights, tests and service. We are equipped to handle all your produce and solicit your business at all times. We have the best of equipment for taking care of your produce.

During the summer months we are going to offer patrons the additional service of Saturday Night Service. Bring in your Poultry, Eggs and Cream any time Saturday night and we will give you the same prompt service as during regular business hours.

The Spring Valley Creamery Co.
Goff, - Kansas.

PUREST MANUFACTURED



OPEN EVERY DAY

7 a. m. to 8:30 p. m.

Including Sunday

**Goff
Cold Storage
Co.**

Phone No. 95

125 cans or 1,250 gallons of milk a day. They also made Franklin Velvet Ice Cream. On April 1, 1921, the Franklin Ice Cream Co. of Goff became the Goff Creamery. J.L. Barnes purchased controlling interest in the local plant because Franklin had planned to close it.

The mik bought at the Goff Creamery increased to the highest volume in the history of the plant. On Saturday, May 21, 1921, 1,670 gallons of milk was taken in. Then in June they purchased a big new separator with a capacity of 4,500 pounds per hour. The Goff Creamery decided in September that since the market for whole mik was "shot" they would start churning fresh butter and, with the proper arrangements with the Hanna Poultry and Egg Co. for use of cold storage facilities, they could hold it and ship it in car lots when the market afforded a reasonable price.

In December the Goff Creamery erected a new building just to the east for making butter. It was built for a capacity of 10,000 pounds of butter per day. In February 1922, a group of local investors took over the Franklin Ice Cream Co. property and started the Spring Valley Creamery. The first butter was churned on April 12, 1922, consisting of four hundred pounds. In 1923 the Spring Valley Creamery installed a whistle that went off at 7:00 a.m., noon, 1:00 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. It could be heard plainly all over town. At this time they could turn out about two tons of butter a day. In January 1924, the Deer Creek Creamery purchasd controlling interest in the Goff Creamery and Will King became the manager. On February 10, 1926, the stockholders voted to sell the Spring Valley Creamery to the Deer Creek Creamery Co. of Atchison. It then became the



Old Franklin Ice Cream building as it appears in 1990. Now used by the City for storage of their machinery.

Goff Cold Storage Co. Charles Jackson purchased Will King's interest in the plant. Then in November, King purchased the interest back from Jackson. They ground feed in one building and could grind any mix of a farmer's grain, fodder, alfalfa or any kind of feed. This was in addition to their wholesale ice cream trade and their agency for "Quisenberry" feeds. They then established their own line of feeds known as K-B taken from the names of the owners, King and E.V. Boulby. The business closed in the thirties.

THE GOFF GHOST

In October 1933, there was a lot of talk about the ghost that would appear down at the depot. The following article appeared in the *Goff Advance* on Thursday, October 19, 1933:

EVENT OF THE WEEK - WHAT WAS IT?

Main Topic of Conversation in the Community This Week
is a Ghost

For ten days past a "Ghost" story has been on the lips of many people of this community. You would hear parts of the story from many other sources. Some folks had a theory of what it might be, others tried to "laugh it off". Even ghosts are news in Goff, so the *Advance* linotype operator volunteered to do his best to solve the puzzle, and here it is:

by Geo. T. Ward

Night Marshall William Plummer has discovered what he believes to be the ghost of a negro who was killed by a westbound Missouri Pacific train in 1910. He was struck in front of the depot and parts of his mangled body were picked up from that place to the railroad crossing about fifty yards northwest. The remains were gathered up and buried by C.K. Simon, former Goff undertaker, now of Lakeworth, Florida.

Early last summer, Mr. Plummer was hired by the council of the City of Goff as the night marshall. Shortly after taking the job he first discovered this peculiar phenomena.

One morning at 3:10, as the eastbound passenger train was standing in front of the depot, he noticed the form of a man leaning against the northwest end of E.E. Holtson's coal bins,

across the alley from the lumber yard. Mr. Plummer was standing on the concrete slab in front of the R-B Oil Co. Station. He never thought but that it was a railroad bum, waiting for the train to start moving so that he could hop the train unmolested and ride "the blinds" to the next town, where he would probably again dismount and wait for the train to start moving so that he would not be caught on it. To Mr. Plummer's surprise, when the train started moving the man (we'll call it a man for lack of a better discription) darted east around the coal bins as fast as he could run and continued his course on down the alley until the darkness finally enveloped him.

Thinking this poor tactics for a bum to use in boarding a train, by running around the coal bins, he wondered if all bums used this type of system so he watched again as this train left town, this time from across the street south from where he had formerly witnessed the spectacle - about fifty yards from the coal bins. This time the same phenomena was repeated, except that the bum emerged from the west side of the bins and ran around them and down the alley. He said that he watched for several nights and finally became convinced that there was something "spooky" about it. He kept the information to himself because he knew he wouldn't like the idea of people calling him "bughouse", as he says they do now.

One night, early last week, Bert "Slim" Winfrey was flagging traffic off the newly oiled No. 9 highway at the corner near the West End Garage when Mr. Plummer came along and asked him if he had ever seen a ghost. "Slim" replied that he hadn't and Mr. Plummer told him to watch the northwest end of the coal bins as the train left town and also told him just what would happen. As the train let town, "Slim" watched, and to his surprise, Mr. Plummer's information was correct. This is where Mr. Plummer made his serious mistake, because it was of his telling "Slim" of the phenomena that people are now calling him "bughouse". Mr. Winfrey knew that his own eyes would not betray him so he told a few fellows about it and cited Mr.

Plummer as proof of his story.

The story has traveled from one person to another, until those who have witnessed the happening are even accused of insanity.

To satisfy our own curiosity, we set the alarm for 2:45 Wednesday morning, got up, dressed, and went to the corner near to the lumber yard, and in the company of six other people, including Mr. Plummer, watched the phenomena. Before we went, we had the idea that it was probably a reflection caused by the train, so being equipped with a three cell focusing flashlight, after the figure had passed from the light into the shadows in the alley, the flashlight was directed toward the figure, and sure enough, just as plain as in broad daylight, was the figure of a man, about five feet six inches tall, weighing approximately 140 pounds, and wearing sort of drab clothing, dashing down the alley as fast as he could run.

Like most human beings who are told about things of this nature, we are skeptical as to just what the figure is, but our own eyes have never betrayed us on anything so plain; and until it is proven that this figure is not solid matter, we will still think it is a man.

Thursday Morning

All right! We're liars! We're drunkards! Or we're afflicted with insanity! But we still do not say that we saw nothing yesterday morning when we witnessed the spectacle.

This morning when we arrived at the scene, about 75 people were present and about a dozen of the "brave" men of the town were stationed at the corner of the coal bins, directly in the path of the figure. It is understood that these "brave" men had patrolled the vicinity for some time in an effort to ascertain just what it was and also to appear gallant in the eyes of the onlookers. As a result, it is our presumption that the man got his cue from their actions that he would be far better off if he didn't make his run and so did not show up. And, as a far more important result, the actions of these "brave" men made liars,

drunkards and fools out of us who have witnessed the spectacle--in the minds of the remainder of the crowd who were present to see it.

But the fact that nothing was seen proves one thing to us. The phenomena is not a reflection of indirect light, as we thought it perhaps might be. And, we know that Mr. Plummer's idea of it being a ghost is in error, due to the fact that our childhood Halloween stories say that ghosts are afraid of nothing. So, we come to the conclusion that it must be some lunatic or dope fiend whom the train attracts, then when he sees it start moving, he becomes frightened and also starts moving.

Goff Advance, Tuesday, October 19, 1933

SOME OF THE OTHER BUSINESSES

The first livery barn in Goff was built by Taylor and Son, grandfather and father of Mary Powell, on the east side of Stahl Street about where the quonset now sets. It later burned down and was rebuilt. In 1909, J.F. Spenser advertised good rigs, fast horses and reasonable rates at the livery. It had different operators during its colorful history including Guy Talbot and H.A. Dorste in the early days.

In 1909, V.J. Van Horn was in the hay business in Goff and installed the first tow mill here.

In 1917, S.D. Morris became the agent in Goff for the Briscoe Car, the car with the "half million dollar motor".

In the thirties, the Colliers, Jack and Lucille, put on live shows at the Family Theatre. They also put on shows at the Riverside Park on the west side of town.

In March 1919, the Goff Building and Realty Association was organized. Since there was a shortage of housing in Goff after the poultry plant opened, they were organized to build new

General Trucking

Long and Short Distance
Hauling

EVERY LOAD INSURED

Your Business Solicited

Walter Snodgrass
Phone 36, Goff

THOMPSON TRUCK LINE

HOWARD THOMPSON

Phone 109, Goff

Local and Long Distance
Hauling

homes in town. They were capitalized at \$10,000 and incorporated under Kansas laws. They were a not-for-profit association. They went out of business in 1929 offering the last house that they had built for sale.

John Hittle built an up-to-date sawing vehicle. He had an Olds gasoline engine mounted on an old Overland chassis and also

a buzz saw with a slide carrier. The rig pulled itself at eight miles an hour. There was no clutch between the engine and the driving wheels except a sliding belt running from the engine to a drive pulley. He slid the belt over to travel and back to the buzz saw to saw wood. He patented the saw rig as "The Missing Link" in 1929.

The first corn to be shipped into Goff was a carload of No. 2 Iowa corn in October, 1913. It sold for 80 to 82 cents per bushel.

In 1913, Goff had one of the best small musical bands in the country.

In 1917, Mrs. Ellora Holley opened a millinery and dressmaking establishment in the old bank building, corner of Third and Stahl Streets. She opened a ready-to-wear and style

Paper Hanging and Interior Decorating

at reasonable prices.

Paper as low as 9c a roll.

**H. H. Wolcott
Goff**

GENERAL TRUCKING!

Satisfactory trucking service at all times with ton and a half truck. Reasonable prices.

Hartford Insurance

R. P. BRAMMER

Phone 31 or 37

shop one block north of there. She sold out in March 1918 and closed up.

In 1925, the Sturgus Fashion Shop opened in the Berridge building a half block north of the First National Bank. Then in July they moved into rooms in the Commercial Hotel. This business didn't last very long.

In September 1915, Paul Smith opened the Goff Electric Company. He sold fixtures, lamps and small appliances. Then in December the Jacob Brothers opened an electric shop in Goff and did electric wiring. Neither of these businesses lasted very long as they came in when Goff got electricity.

There were many other businesses of all kinds that came and went in Goff over the years of which I do not have enough information on to mention.

THE FAIRVIEW CEMETERY

The Fairview Cemetery was started in the early days on the grounds of the Fairview Schoolhouse and was named after that school. This was before Goff came into existence. The schoolhouse was located on a spot that would be on about the center of the cemetery. The school building was moved in the late 1890's to a new location one mile west.

The following article appeared in the February 15, 1940 edition of the *Goff Advance* newspaper and was written by Mrs. Flora Walker, who was a teacher in the Fairview School in about 1890:



Fairview Schoolhouse that sat where the cemetery is located. It was moved a mile west in the 1890's. The cemetery was named after this school. Pictured is Mrs. Sarah Wiggins, taken in the 1940's.

Just Some Graves on a Hillside

Many years ago, when I was quite a young girl, I taught school in a country district a few miles from a village. The white wooden structure faced the east and the view from this direction on an early winter morning when the sun was shooting long, level rays of gold over the prairie, or in the springtime, when the slopes were slowly being clothed with velvety verdure, was enchanting. On the south of the schoolhouse ran the public road.

The building was of the conventional design: longitudinal, with a row of windows along either side, a wide door at the front, opening from a small unrailed porch, from which three steps descended to the walk. On the top of the roof in the front towered, what seemed to us then, an imposing belfry tenanted by a cracked, incapacitated bell.

But the silent feature of the surroundings was the cemetery, back of the schoolhouse grounds. Often in the country, a cemetery is found in conjunction with a church, but seldom adjacent to a schoolhouse. But here on this hill, gently sloping backward, reposed a score or more of sleepers, their graves placed in rows with mathematical precision, their white marble tombstones almost identical, as if the apparent good taste of the friends of the first tenant had been copied by each of the friends of the others.

When I first saw this cemetery, I do not remember that it aroused in my mind any sensation except that of a mild curiosity. Life was very real then and death seemed so far off as to be but a disagreeable myth. I say disagreeable, but I do not think it was even that. For I believe at that time of youth and superabundant vitality, when there was little danger of death putting in an appearance, the thought of it aroused in me rather agreeable sensations. To be sure I loved life but the thought of going away, if one were compelled to go, when young, and shall I say beautiful?, and when all the world would be terribly sorry, did not seem so bad.

I am sure that the children, too had no dread of the graves

on the hillside. The graves were there. Some of them had been there ever since they could remember, and they simply accepted them as matter of fact. They did not avoid the unfenced space, neither were they unduly familiar. In the springtime, I have seen the little girls walking arm in arm, or skipping there among the graves, gathering violets that grew in clumps under the willows and cottonwoods. But they did not linger there. They never took their books and sat there under the shade to con their lessons. At times when the boys were playing truant ball, as if bent on a voyage of discover, would escape the usual bounds of space, and, soaring high, would alight mysteriously on sacred ground. Then I would hear one of the boys call, "Hey Bob" or "Hey Harry, it lit over there among the 'deaders'!" Soon swift boyish feet would spurn the ground under them, an bounding through the tall grass of summer, startle the quail from her covert, as the runner threw himself upon the ball imbedded against the headstone that read, "Mary Jane, beloved daughter of Henry and Mary Smith," etc.

When winter came I used to look out of the schoolhouse and see the flakes of snow falling, swifty and silently on the graves. No where else had ever seemed so beautiful. Even to my sense then it seemed the symbol of peace and purity, covering with its white healing mantle the scars of earth.

Several years ago, I visited again the graves on the hillside. The graves had been many times multiplied and the spot much beautified.

Mowed lots, radiant with flowers and shrubs are not forgotten. But the great change is the absence of the schoolhouse. It has been moved to another location.

But now the place excites in my mind something more than a mild curiosity. For many friends repose here now, among them a former pupil -- a gay young romancer, with stardust in his eyes. In a sacred corner the willows sweep over two precious mounds beneath which lie those beloved guardians of my childhood and youth - my father and mother.

I wondered if the red birds and robins sang as tunefully

above their resting place as they used to sing above the neglected graves some years ago, when a certain young girl, the apple of her parents eyes, used sometimes to wander there. Here is the spot, christened by childish laughter and robbed, in a measure of gloom, by the song and jest of youthful voices, I would have them, my beloved, rest--here in Gods acre--here among the graves on the hillside.

Mrs. Flora Walker, Goff Advance, Feb. 15, 1940

Mrs. Walker's parents were Mr. and Mrs. Morgan Brownlee and are buried on the third lot north of the west gate of the cemetery next to the present west road.

According to cemetery records, some of the first to be buried there were, a Mr. Burr, Mrs. Leavit, and H.F. Holt. Two of the early ones were Gilbert Gates, March 21, 1872, and Lodusky Gates, January 21, 1876.

In May 1916, the cemetery board hired Chester Sourk as sexton. They advertised that for the small sum of one dollar per year, to be paid by the individual lot owners, he kept the lot mowed and the graves filled. Then in 1919, a new ornamental fence was added around the cemetery.

One of the many veterans buried there is Oberlin Levick of the War of 1812. There is a monument erected for Arlington Heald, who was killed in action in the first World War, but he is actually buried in France. This is where the American Legion conducts its memorial service.

On October 31, 1926, the "Fairview Cemetery Association" was organized. This entitled them to a mill levy in a cemetery district to raise the money for the care and maintenance of the cemetery. This is the manner which it is still operated today.

A news item, in keeping with the season and the story of nativity, is the recent establishment of a "Babyland" on the C.S. Goodrich family lot in the Goff Fairview Cemetery. "Mr. and Mrs. Goodrich formulated the idea a year or two, patterned after the Los Angeles famous Forest Lawn. Mr. Goodrich's death during the year in no way changed the plan and their son,

Harvard, is planning the large 'Fairyland in memory of Elizabeth Goodrich', a marker to erect on the plot. The Goodrich's lost the baby daughter a number of years ago, and the lonely little grave in the 27 x 20 lot probably gave them the idea. There is room for 24 baby graves on the plot set aside for Babyland. This lot is free to anyone who has the misfortune to lose an infant and cares to use it.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Bell were the first to make use of the plot, when they lost their little baby daughter, Cynthia Sue, last October. The marker at the grave is identical to the one of Elizabeth's in the adjoining 10 x 20 Goodrich family lot, and the future ones will be the same. *(Courier-Tribune)*

Cynthia Sue Bell was buried on October 24, 1955.



Fairyland, taken in 1990

WORLD WAR I

In March 1917, the United States entered into World War I, the war to end all wars. The sheriff, county clerk and county physician were the registration and draft board under the new army bill. The first young man to answer the call and volunteer from Goff was James Worcester, Jr.

Then in May a fund was started to purchased a large edition of "Old Glory". It was raised on June 5 on the flag pole

of the city bell tower and raised each morning until the end of the war. The flag was 12 x 18 feet. On June 7, there were seventy young men between the ages of 21 and 31 who registered at the Goff precinct for the draft. In 1918, the Lutheran Church, north of Goff, who held services at the Maple Shade Schoolhouse discontinued the use of the German language



Band at the Victory celebration after World War I showing Dr. Corwin's house and the old State Bank Building.



Victory celebration after World War I showing the Electric Theatre, present City Hall

in their sermons and services. This was due to the fact that the United States was at war with Germany and there were some ill feelings toward using the German language in this country. In 1919, the first Memorial Service was held at the Fairview Cemetery for the fallen servicemen. On November 11, 1919, Armistice day was properly observed at the Electric Theatre. The war had ended a year earlier.

SOME ITEMS OF INTEREST

In 1881, there were sixty pupils enrolled in the Maple Shade School about four miles north of Goff.

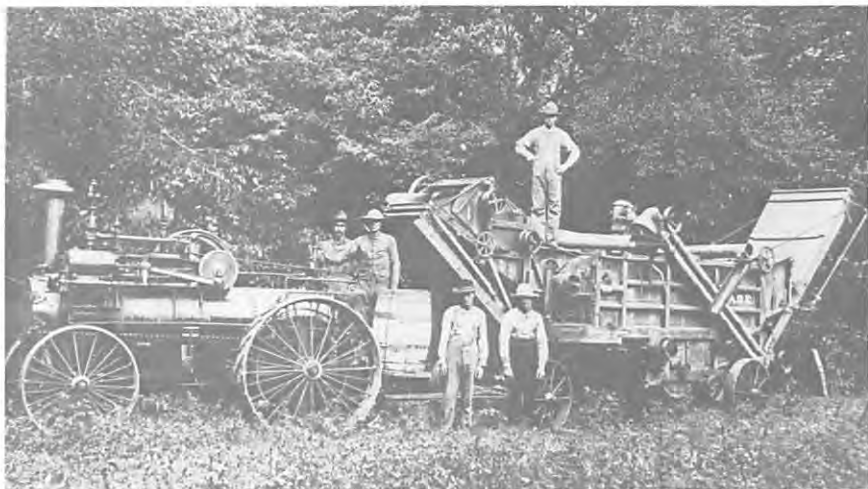
The Ford Motor Co. was organized June 16, 1903 with a capitol of one hundred thousand dollars and only twenty eight thousand in cash.

The country northeast of Goff was known as "The Amaroogee". The Goff territory was called "Pucker Brush".

Bancroft was called "Shotgun" for many years getting the name from an incident that happened during the building of the North Western railroad.

In 1912, 19,460 hogs died in Nemaha County, mostly due to Cholera.

In June 1913, Goff market prices were: corn 53¢, wheat



Hittle Brothers, 1906. John, Bob, Charley, Jess and Frank (not in order).

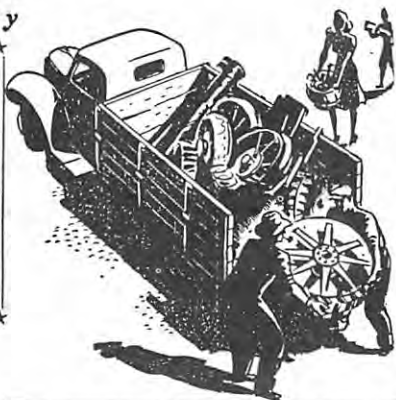
JUNK RALLY

For GOFF

and vicinity

NATIONAL SCRAP HARVEST

Starts
SAT. Sept. 5
At
GOFF



Junk helps make guns,
tanks, ships for our
fighting men
Bring in anything made
of metal or rubber . . .
Get paid for it on the spot

Bring your family
Spend the day
Meet your friends



Let's Jolt them with Junk
from GOFF AND VICINITY

JUNK MAKES FIGHTING WEAPONS



One old disc will provide
scrap steel needed for 210 semi-
automatic light carbines.



One old plow will help
make one hundred 75-mm.
armor-piercing projectiles.



One useless old tire
provides as much
rubber as is used in
12 gas masks.



One old shovel will
help make
4 hand grenades.



The big drive for scrap gets under way this week. Get all your stuff together and if you have sufficient for a pick-up, call any of the Goff truck operators. They will pay you all it is worth and come and get it. On smaller quantities, report to Keith Baugh, chairman, and arrangements will be made to assemble it. Sponsored by—
Keith Baugh, Chr., phone 37
Howard Thompson, phone 109
W. T. Snodgrass, phone 36
F. J. Levret, phone 3511

Charges Batteries Instantly

If your battery is run down
we charge it instantly by
simply pouring in

Lightning the New Electrolyte

This wonderful new invention eliminates all battery troubles caused by Sulphuric Acid, which destroys your battery by eating away the plates.

It is not necessary to rent a battery while yours is recharging.

Do not throw away your old battery. Bring it to me.

Nearest Service Station.

Leonard Powell

Phone 308B.

80¢, oats 35¢, fat cattle 8¢, hogs 8.10¢, hens 12¢, old roosters 5¹/₂¢, springs 19¢, ducks 10¢, geese 5¢, cream 25¢, eggs 14¢.

In 1913, there were 402 license tags sold in Nemaha County and 28,000 in the State of Kansas.

The cornerstone was laid for the Catholic Church in Kelly on Sunday, October 19, 1913. Dedication was on October 15, 1915.

The 1879 Legislature of Kansas passed and submitted to the people of Kansas a joint resolution providing for an amendment to the constitution by supplementing article 10 with a 10th section as follows: "The manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors shall be



Fourth of July parade in the early days.



July 4, 1988 Parade. Pictured are Alvin Bell, Donald Henry, Roy Bell and Leo Wessel.

forever prohibited in this state, except for medical, scientific and mechanical purposes." The amendment was voted on on November 2, 1880 and carried by a majority of 7,998 votes. On February 19, 1881, the legislature passed laws implementing the prohibition and Kansas became a dry state. The reinforcement of the law really began about 1907.

(The above was taken from Kansas History 1912, by Frank W.

25 People ~~5-2~~ The Only Appearance in This Section All Season ~~5-1~~ People 25



TED NORTH
In a Big
Waterproof
Tent

North Bros. PRESENT THE Ted North Players
Goff, Kas., Three Nights Starting Monday, July 23
BIG MATINEE WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON

Don't Fail to See the Big Show Opening Night. All New Plays.
All New Vaudeville. Every Performance Different!
Featuring SPORT NORTH, TED NORTH and MARIE PETERS

4 VAUDEVILLE ACTS Each Show Besides the Play!
Opening Play--"THE MAN WORTH WHILE"

Prices Children 10c Adults 50c
Grounds North of Hanna P&E plant Include ingtax

Blackmar)

On July 1, 1919, a national prohibition took effect.

On February 1917, the Aurora School, four miles northeast of Goff, burned to the ground due to an overheated stove. School was held in a nearby empty farmhouse until a new school was built. Then it was hit by lightning in 1918 and burned again. It was rebuilt again and in August 1919 it was hit by lightning again, but never burned this time.

In 1917, a new Morning Star schoolhouse was built. This school was known as the "Porter" school after a family by that name. It was located one mile north and four east of Goff. This was the school that I attended in grade school.

1920 Ford prices were: Touring car without starter, \$512.12; Touring car with starter \$585.01; Runabout \$465.26; Runabout with starter \$538.15; Sedan \$881.76; Coupe \$819.29.

1924 Ford prices were: \$295.00 starter and dismountable rims \$85.00 extra, Steel body pick up \$490.00; Runabout \$265.00

The first radio market news, courtesy of Leonard Powell, were put out in Goff on April 20, 1922.

A sewing room opened in Goff in November 1935 under the W.P.A. Mrs. Zella Rice was the foreman. They sewed clothing for the needy. It was located just east of the bank.

The first of March 1933, corn prices were ten and twelve cents per bushel.

President Roosevelt declared a bank holiday in March 1933 and all banks were closed for a week. This was to give banks time to obtain a supply of currency to cover the many withdrawals that were occurring during the depression.

The average wages in Kansas in 1937 were \$702.

In 1938, hybrid seed corn was introduced to the farmers of Kansas.

The census records show the population in Harrison Township in 1880 to be 559 and in 1890, 970. This included the towns in the township.



Working on the roads

The Goff Advance, Goff, Kansas

Early English Goff Colony

(By John T. Bristow, Wetmore)

A half century or more ago England got rid of some of her surplus inhabitants by sending them over to this country to "root, hog, or die" as the old saying is. The drifted in here "like lost leaves from the annals of men." Colonies were planted in numerous sections of Kansas. Nemaha county, with her great sweep of vast rolling green prairies, inviting, beckoning, snared one of those colonies. The site selected was near Wetmore.

The settlement known as the old English colony was on section 25 in Harrison township, five miles northwest of Wetmore. The section was purchased from the Union Pacific railroad company, by the Co-operative Colonization Company of London, about 1870.

The London colonization company had about 600 members. They drew lots to determine who would be the lucky—or unlucky—ones to come over first, expenses paid.

John Fuller, John Molineaux, George Dutch, John Radford, Charles McCarthy and John Stowell were the original six to center upon the duties of conquering this land—virgin wild land it was. Excepting John Stowell, all these men had families, but they did not all bring their families over at first.

Llewellyn Castle

An eight-room house was built in the middle of the section and all managed to live in it for a while. It was called Llewellyn Castle. Later, lean-tos were built on two sides of the big house, and finally, some smaller buildings were erected around the original house. The men were supplied meagerly with funds to equip the farm.

The idea of the company at first was to make a town in the center of the section, and cut the land up into 10-acre tracts. They seemed to think that ten acres would make a respectable sized farm. The town of Goff, a mile and a half away, got started and the colony town project was abandoned. Also the 10 acre farm project was changed to 40 acres.

The lumber for the improvements was unloaded at Sother, a siding on the railroad a mile and a half south of the Colony section. There was a postoffice at old Sother. Nothing else.

Not even a station agent.

Later arrivals of the colonists included Wessels, Beehys, Perrys, Coxes, Ashtons, Trents, McConwells, Gates, Wootens, Conovers, Hills, Westons, Mays, Helsbys, Mrs. Terbit, Mrs. Weeks, possibly others. Still later other members of the Colonization company came over after the company had ceased to exist—gone bankrupt, it was charged, because of the extravagant management of the nonproducing misfits sent over here to start operations.

At this late date it could not be ascertained just what was the text of the contracts between the parent company and the members sent over here. But the impression is that if all had gone well additional lands would have been acquired to accommodate other members. The members, however, kept on coming, regardless of the lack of advance preparation.

They scattered out on other lands, mostly around the Colony—usually 10-acre tracts. They were miserably poor. And the privations were many. Mrs. Terbit, having no means of conveyance, used to walk all the way in from the Colony and carry home on her shoulder a 50-pound sack of flour. Isaac May settled on the 40-acre tract one mile south of Wetmore, which is now the home of George W. Gill. He lived in a dug-out.

Doomed to Failure

The Colony project was a glorious and ignominious failure from the very first, with romance and intrigue ever in the ascendency. Those poor Englishmen were as green as the verdant prairies in springtime which lay all about them. And the inexorable hand of Fate pressed down upon them heavily. They were besieged by droughts, grasshoppers, prairie fires, blizzards, rattlesnakes—and, worst of all, an

abiding ignorance of all things American.

Those poor misfits had not had a chance. And it was little short of criminal to send them over here so empty handed and so illy equipped for the duties imposed upon them. But they were now all a part of the big sun-filled golden west. And they were too poor to go back.

Many are the causes advanced for the downfall of the Colony project, but the one cause on which all seem to be unanimous more or less is that "They were a bunch of rascals." This is probably an error, or partly so, at least.

Internal friction with a very shady but treeless background undoubtedly played its part. But I would rather suspect that the main cause was ignorance, or to put it more kindly, a lack of knowledge. Tom Fish, our faithful mixer of British-American jurisprudence—three times Justice of the Peace—backs me up in this contention. Says Tommy, "They just didn't know anything about farming." Our Tom attended their meetings back in London at the Newman street-Market street headquarters.

But be the facts what they might, and admitting that there were among them no replicas of the men who walked along the Galilean shores two thousand years ago, still I do subscribe to the common belief that those Colonists were all rascals.

Had they succeeded, handicapped as they were, it would have been a miracle, and only in ancient history do miracles spring fullblown from beginnings of nothings. A condition soon developed among the Colonists on section 25 where it was "every fellow for himself and the devil take the hindmost." True, there was a lot of poor management and some shady, if not

to say crooked, transactions. And it appears one man did rather "Lord" it over the others—took the lion's share of everything.

Postholes A Dollar Each

George Cox, a carpenter,—they were practically all tradesmen—was sent to superintend fencing the Colony lands. And, very much to the merriment of the natives, he did that fencing in the dead of winter when the ground was frozen. The postholes he and his countrymen dug that winter cost the Company one dollar each. Such frozen assets were, of course, conducive to the downfall of the Company.

But George Cox was not the fool that his icebound fence would brand him. The real fault was on the other side of the big pond. The company sent Cox over here in mid-winter to build a fence. He was without funds. The larder at Llewellyn Castle was low. And his brother Englishmen needed immediate succor. There was money for George Cox only when he worked. And he couldn't afford to put in all his time that blizzardy snow-bound winter hanging onto the coat-tail of one of his brother countrymen while the bunch of them played ring-around-the-stove in that old Colony House to keep from freezing, as he once told me they were compelled to do. So, then, what was really wrong with George's congealed fence idea?

Like other Englishmen, after coming here, George Cox had a lot to learn, of course. He was complainant in a lawsuit involving the ownership of a cow. John J. Ingalls was attorney for Theodore Wolfley, the defendant. The illustrious John J. queried, "What color was your cow, Mr. Cox?" "Bay," said George. The court laughed and told Mr. Cox to try again. "Well," said George, "I 'ave a bay 'orse and my cow's the same color of the bay

'orse."

The Jovial Mr. Murray

Then, from over the seas, came the jovial Mr. Murray, clothed in authority and a superabundance of ego—English to the core. He had been sent over here to make an audit of the Company's estate. Murray stopped first at Wetmore and partook freely of Johnny Clifton's "alf-and-alf." He was a free spender and made friends here readily.

In pursuance of his duties, Mr. Murray said to those Colony delinquents, "Wot's the jolly old idea of all this reticence? Hit's most happallin! I want to see the books, by jove!"

One of those derelicts exclaimed with a little more mirth than was becoming, "I si, just listen to 'im fellows! Wants to see the books, 'e does! That's rich! Si, mister, we don't keep nenny books!"

Then in unison they shot words at Mr. Murray which were the same as "You get the hell out of here!" Murray demurred. And, not having read the storm signals quite right, he belabored, "Ave a care! Want that I should report you for this hinsolence? Hit's very hunwise for you to hact this way."

But when the old shotgun was brought from its hiding place an awful doubt of his own wisdom assailed the jovial Mr. Murray. Those true sons of Briton actually chased the auditor away with a shotgun.

In employing the hit-and-miss English words here I am relaying them to you as best I can from memory as I caught them from one, maybe two, of the original six, many, many years ago. The quoted words are not my own. I make no inventions. If you could have known the men and could apply either the Stowell or Radford pronunciation and accent you would

improve it a lot. And don't forget to speed up a little.

There are now few of the old-time typical English with us. And the language of those who came a long time ago has been Americanized to such extent that the younger generation here have no conception of just how delightfully funny was the talk of a fresh Englishman. However, some of those who came over as children and even some of the American-born who had good tutors retain a percentage of the pronunciation but the inflection and speed which characterized their ancestors have been lost.

To Be Continued

Early English Goff Colony

Editor's Note—This is a continuance of the article under the same heading in the issue of two weeks ago—Oct. 29—written by John T. Bristow of Wetmore. Due to a lack of space, we were unable to continue this article last week.

Capt. Wilson of London

After the collapse of the Colony enterprise the unallotted part of section 25 fell into the hands of Captain Wilson of London. He was an officer in the Company. Later, Captain Wilson's interest was acquired by William Fish, also of London, and a member of the Company. In England, William Fish was superintendent of the Great Northern railroad. He came over here in 1881. He was a pensioner, and did not renounce his allegiance to the Crown.

Captain Wilson evidently thought a lot of the Colony scheme. He was to have given, at death, to the first male child born on the section, his entire fortune. That honor fell to Alfred Wilson Mollineaux, first son of John Mollineaux, born in 1874. While conversing with Alfred Mollineaux a few days ago, he said to me, "But since I didn't get me 'eritage I've dropped the Wilson part of it. Wot would be the good to bother with it now?"

The Mollineaux heirs are the only descendants to hold an interest in section 25 in recent years. Alfred now owns the south eighty of the northwest quarter. Harry sold the north 80 two years ago to Otto Krock. Otto paid \$6,000 for it, including the growing crop. The old house on the place, built more than a half century ago, is the original John Mollineux home. The other lands in the section have long since passed to new owners.

Only Two Colonists Left

There are only two of the old colonists living. William Wessel, familiarly called "Teddy," came over in 1873. He is 89 and lives with his daughter, Mrs. John Chase in Goff. William Conover lives with his son, Edward, on a farm adjacent to the old Colony section. He is 89.

I took a drive about the old Colony section a few days ago seeking to refresh my memory and gather additional data for this article. At Goff, I found Teddy Wessel in the Sourk drug store. Still living over the broken dreams of the past, Teddy exploded, firstoff, "They were a bunch of damned rascals."

In course of the interview I asked Teddy if he knew anything about a racy romance at Llewellyn Castle many years ago. "I should say I do," he said. He had a momentary flash

of it. That was all. Then his mind began to fag. Laborously, tantalizingly, the tired feelers of his mind went fumbling into the dark pool of the past, trying desperately to capture the lost details, but the whole works went under—ebbed away like a fadeout in a movie.

George Sourk, who was sitting by and coaching the old fellow a bit, said, "You'll have to give daddy a little time. John, he'll remember it, all right."

Teddy swam up out of it all right and sure enough recollections were upon him with a bang. But the main topic was still submerged and in its place was an ugly memory that should have been dead long ago. "They were damned rascals," is all he said.

It is assumed that my very fine old friend's poisoned arrow was aimed at the shades of the original six, or, at most, only those who had the actual management of the colony affairs.

A happy—and I believe equitable solution to the matter would allow the reader who had a friend or relative among them the privilege of exempting such one, and thus still leave Teddy some targets for his arrow.

John Stowell

For my own part I think I would like to exempt that little 19-year old boy, John Stowell. In later years, after he had come to Wetmore and engaged in business, I worked for him in his lumber yard, and in his brick manufacturing plant and finally as typesetter on his newspaper. He was not a crook.

Teddy Wessel's run of hard luck started before he left London. It seems he bought something—or thought he had paid for something he didn't get. But Teddy can thank his stars that

there was at least one crooked countryman in his close circle. Teddy trusted a friend to purchase first class passage for himself and family. The friend bought cheaper tickets on a slower ship and pocketed the difference. The fast ship passed the slower one in mid-ocean and was lost, together with all on board, when one day out from New York.

A Pioneer Mail Carrier

I grew up along with those bally English and I think I knew them pretty well. They were not all morons. The Colony section was only five miles away from Wetmore as the crow flies. And as the crow flew so then did I gallop my mustang along the prairie grass lane between Wetmore and Seneca, passing Llewellyn Castle on the way.

There were few fences in the way then. Just prairie grass and wild roses and more prairie grass. And lots of prairie chickens. I have seen acres and acres of them at one time on the hillsides in the vicinity of Llewellyn Castle.

There was no blue grass then. And no timber along the route anywhere until the Nemaha was reached just this side of Seneca at the old Hazard place.

And later, in 1837, when I was a compositor on T. J. Wolfley's Seneca Tribune and made drives home with Bandy Sterling's livery team, practically all of the twenty-six miles of road was still only a winding trail.

Willis J. Cqburn, the contractor for that Star mail route went with me on the first trip. He took me to the home of his old friend, John Radford, who had then left the Colony and was living on the old Scrafford place adjoining Seneca on the south. I put up with

Old Radidad", as we always called him, when he came to live in Wetmore, for about a month, and while they treated me kindly, I didn't like their English ways.

And when I announced my intentions of throwing up my job Willis Coburn said I should then put up at the old Fairchild Hotel, which was on a side street north from the upper end of main street. It was a stone building. Besides being immaculately clean, the Fairchilds were related to the Jay Powers family in Wetmore and that made a bond between us that held for the duration of my mail carrying activities. There were two stops on the way—one in the Abbey neighborhood, and one at Old Lincoln.

As compensation for my services as mail carrier, I was paid 50c each day, up one day and back the next—twice a week. And I was glad to get that. Our mail carriers here in Wetmore, covering equal distance, with only two hours on the road, draw about seven dollars a day.

When Willis Coburn offered me the job I was more than a year short of the required age, 16, and I was wondering how I could get by without swearing to a lie, when our good old postmaster, Alvin McCreery, solved the problem for me. When he swore me in he said, "Now don't tell your age." He shook his head, negatively, and repeated, "Don't tell me your age."

At the Radford home in Seneca I learned enough about the old Colony to make a book, but much of it is now shrouded in a fog of haze. On the occasion of our first trip, Mr. Radford and Mr. Coburn discussed Colony matters freely in my presence. It was

July. And it was out on the border of a big orchard which came right up to the back door, in the shade of an early harvest apple tree, where they sat and talked.

I have to admit that at the time I was more interested in the golden fruit hanging on the apple tree than I was in the conversation, but I got enough of it to know that there would be a good story in it if I could but remember more clearly. Mr. Radford's agile mind ground out astonishing facts as steadily as a grist mill that afternoon. Whatever else may be said of John Radford, he was an educated man and he had a wonderful sense of humor.

A Faded Romance

As I remember it, or partly remember it, the high light of the afternoon's conversation—the thing that tickled the men most—was a racy romance that had budded, bloomed and died at Llewellyn Castle. But somewhere along the time-worn trail between that old apple tree and my present quarters, separated by three and 50 years, the details of that affair are lost. And, like the characters who made it, that romance has crumbled to dust—is now part of the past.

But the phantom of the bally old thing, elusive though as a half-formed thought awakened by a stray wisp of forgotten fragrance, still hover over section 25. And if memory were but a trifle more elastic I could entertain you with something more, than the tattered threads of Llewellyn Castle's most charming romance—a jolly old love-spree staged and destroyed by the heartless hand of Fate.

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GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC

On January 14, 1887, a G.A.R., Grand Army of the Republic, post was established. "Let 'em come" was expressed. It was known as the Chester A. Arthur Post #441 and the hall was located just east of the present First National Bank. A ball was held there in 1890. The I.O.O.F. later had the building and various businesses were later located there. The G.A.R. sign was taken down in June 1924, and the building was torn down in 1955.

The Women's Relief Corp. was the women's auxiliary organization of the G.A.R. Since the Civil War until after World War I, they did more to keep patriotism alive than any other organization.

INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODD FELLOWS

The Goff Lodge No. 377 of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows was organized on August 9, 1890 and obtained their charter from the Grand Lodge on November sixth of the same year. They held their meetings in the second story of the G.A.R. hall just east of the bank. The lodge bought the building in 1904 and sold it in 1919. They then bought the Powell one-story brick theatre building, present City Hall building, and planned to add a second floor for a modern lodge hall. In April 1923, the lodge hosted the I.O.O.F. roundup that marked the 104th anniversary of the Lodge. In spite of muddy roads, there were ninety-eight visiting members and forty-one local members, twenty-four visiting Rebekahs and thirty local members who attended. In 1926, the I.O.O.F. lodge here had ninety-nine members.

In 1929, after the Electric Theatre moved to the Ingalls building, they remodeled the hall with anterooms in the front and wainscoting four feet high around the whole room. They moved into this building in March 1929. They then started work on excavating the basement. They completed the banquet room in the basement and dedicated it in August 1930. They invited the Rebekahs, Masons, Easter Star, Woodmen, Royal

December 31, 1894

Goffs Lodge, No. 377

No. of Members 31

OFFICERS FOR THE NEXT TERM

John Riley N. G.

J. McKeller V. G.

Dan'l Bulliv Sec'y

Per. Sec'y

W. R. Howland Treas.

J. H. Taylor Representative

C. S. Younkman Alternate Rep.

THIS CERTIFIES,

That Bro. C. S. Younkman
has served one term each in the office of
N. G.in this Lodge, and is
entitled to the Past Official Degree appertain-
ing thereto.We, the undersigned, officers for the term
ended, hereby certify that the above is a
true and correct statement of the present condition of ourWESS our hand and seal of our Lodge,
BR' 1st day of DecC. S. Younkman
Noble Grand.J. McKeller
Secretary.

+I.O.O.F.+

Goffs Lodge,
No. 377


SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE TERM ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1894

This Report was Mailed

Jan 6th 1895

By J. McKeller Sec'y

 The Secretary will please be careful to enter the date of mailing this report above, but will NOT fill any of the blanks BELOW.

Received Jan. 8, 1895

Amount Enclosed, : : \$ 7.75

Amount Due, : : : \$

correct.

STEWART & SONS, PRINTERS, SEASIDE, CALIF.

Number of Members last Report,	
Number of Initiations,	<u>19</u>
Number Admitted by Card,	<u>12</u>
Number of Reinstatements,	
Total,	<u>31</u>
DEDUCT:	
Number Withdrawn by Card,	
Number Dropped for N. P. D.,	
Number Expulsions,	
Number Deaths,	
Total Deductions,	
Leaving Present Number of Members,	<u>31</u>
Number of Past Grands,	<u>1</u>
Number of Rejections during Term,	<u>3</u>

RECEIVED the amounts named opposite the Lodges below, being money returned to our Treasury on account of Benefits paid Brothers of those Lodges:

No. of Lodge	NAME OF LODGE	STATE	AMOUNT Dolla. Cts.
377	Groffs	Kan	

RELIEF.

	DOLLARS	CENTS
Amount Paid for Relief of Brothers,		
Amount Paid for Relief of Widowed Families,		
Amount Paid for Educating Orphans,		
Amount paid for Burying the Dead,		
Special Relief,		
Donations,		
Total Amount,		
Number of Brothers Relieved,		
Number of Brothers Buried,		
Number of Weeks for which Sick Benefits were Paid during Term,		
No. of Widowed Families Relieved,		

REMARKS:

This being our first report you may excuse omissions & blots as we are not familiar with this work

BENEFITS.

This Lodge pays to members when sick and entitled to Benefits, per week:

	DOLLARS	CENTS
If of the Third Degree,	3	00
FUNERAL		
On death of Brother of Scarlet Degree in good standing,	35	00
On death of Wife of Brother of Scarlet Degree in good standing,	17	50

Neighbors, SBA's, American Legion and all other organizations who used or had used their buildings. They also extended an invitation to everyone to attend the big supper they served.

In 1939 the hall was sold to the city for \$1500 (see *City Hall*) and their meetings were moved to the building just to the north. They surrendered their charter on March 27, 1964 and closed the lodge.

COMMERCIAL CLUB

On September 3, 1917, a Goff Commercial Club was organized with sixty men present. The old idea of club membership stopping at the city limits was ended. Every farmer in a trade radius of Goff as well as every man in town were urged to belong. At a meeting in 1918 it is reported that one hundred fifty attended.

A Chamber of Commerce was organized at the schoolhouse on January 21, 1924. E.E. Holston was elected president, Rev. Charles E. Henry secretary. It was hoped that the old Trenton, Missouri idea of extending the membership and interest of this body to farm and town alike could be carried out.

I have been unable to uncover what happened to these clubs except that maybe it was because they consisted of only men.

Then the Goff business people organized the Commercial Club at a meeting on August 29, 1933. (This is the Commercial Club that is still active in town today.) It was made permanent to be known as "The Goff Commercial Club". They met to make plans for free shows and wound up organizing the club. The purpose of this organization was to work for the interests of everyone in this trade territory and the membership rolls were open to every person interested in the welfare of Goff and the community. They started with forty-five members and on February 11, 1934, there were one hundred ten who attended the meeting at the Odd Fellow's hall. They presently meet in the basement or downstairs of the City Hall.

THE AMERICAN LEGION

Post 316 of the American Legion was organized at a meeting on February 6, 1921 at the Theatre in Goff. They were presented a charter dated March 22, 1922. As a fitting and worthy tribute to the two buddies who met death in action and now sleep in the flowered fields of France, the unit will always be known as the "Heald-Thieme Post of the American Legion". Arlington A. Heald was officially reported killed in action on November 5, 1918 and Eitel F. Thieme, in the same regiment, was reported killed in Action on November 1, 1918. Then at 2:20 p.m. on September 15, 1921, the last remains of Eitel F. Thieme were laid to rest in beautiful Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia. A marker was placed in the cemetery for Heald, who is buried in France.

Officers elected were: Post Commander Donald McConnell, Vice Commander Herman E. Henery, Adjustant Howard Franks, Finance Officer J. Corwin Webster, Historian W.C. Jessee and Master at Arms Harvey Mayer. There were twenty-five men who attended the meetings and their meetings were held in the I.O.O. F. hall. Then in September 1928, the post purchased nine lots from Mrs. Emma Cobb for the purpose of making a city park. They built fire places, installed picnic tables and had a well and had a nice park. Then in about 1948 or 1949, they purchased the old Lone Pine Schoolhouse about 3 miles west of Goff on the highway. They moved it to

The present Heald-Thieme Post of the American Legion is shown at the right.



the park for a Legion hall. They held their meetings there until February 1972 when they purchased the old Post Office building downtown on the north side of the highway and moved there. Since then they have remodeled the building by putting in rest rooms and a kitchen. They put in a new suspended ceiling and later replaced the old flat roof with a gable type roof.

The first military funeral held in Goff was largely attended and was an impressive and fitting ceremony to the memory of one who gave his life to his country. The remains of Private William F. Summers, Co. G, 64th Infantry, who was killed in action in France on October 22, 1918, were placed in their final resting place in the Fairview Cemetery Sunday, July 3, 1921 at three o'clock.

The Legion members and friends assembled at the home where a short prayer was given by Rev. Charles Richard, who was appointed the Post Chaplain. The line of march was as follows: Chaplain Richard, three sailors as color bearers, Will C. King, Will Driscoll and Ray Riley. The remains wrapped in the American Flag, on a wagon drawn by four black horses with soldiers Wallie Heald and Wesley Culler as riders. On either side of the carriage marched the firing squad, soldiers J.E. Clark, Wesley Berridge, J.W. Reeves, and Arthur Lowery. Following were the pall bearers, soldiers Guy Davis, Noble Jones, Chester Heald, George Bell, D.W. Calder and Harold Rosel. Next was the bugler, soldier W.C. Jessee, Jr., and honorary pall bearers, soldiers Howard Scott, Harvey Mayer, LeRoy Hyde, Jack Tharp, and W.H. Fund. Sailor George Lawson was commanding officer, sailor Herman Henery in charge of cars in procession and soldier Hiller Camp in charge at the cemetery. In this formation followed by autos, the squad marched at attention to the edge of town, at ease to the hill overlooking the cemetery and at attention to the cemetery. Chaplain Richard in charge gave a short sketch of the life of soldier Summers. The mens quartet, Messers, Holston, Goodrich, Turrentine and Goudy gave a selection. Rev. A.L. Goudy offered prayer. The funeral address given by Chaplain

Richard was impressive and well given. Following a song by the quartet the squad marched to the grave and the military prayer was given by the Chaplain. A pause was made to allow photographs to be taken of the assemblage. The body was then lowered, and the firing squad gave the last salute to their honored dead. The cemetery closed with "Taps" played by bugler Jessee.

There were more than one hundred cars parked about the cemetery and the crowd present was estimated at more than five hundred people.

The memorial day program in 1922 was held in the theatre. Veterans of three wars were represented by the men in uniform on the platform. Judge J.R. Donaldson and H.H. Hittle of the Civil War, Walter Clelland of the Spanish American War, and legion members of World War I. Following the service at the theatre cars were provided for all to the cemetery. The twenty-three graves of veterans in the cemetery were decorated. The ladies auxiliary placed cut flowers on all the graves. One of the graves in the Fairview cemetery is Oberlin Levic, a veteran of the War of 1812. A firing squad composed of four sailors, Will King, Herman Henery, Fred Hunt and Ray Riley, fired a salute to the military dead. The salute was given across the monument erected to the memory of Arlington A. Hald and two flags erected to his memory and that of Eitel F. Thieme in whose honor the post is named. The remains of Arlington rest in France and Eitel is buried in the Arlington National Cemetery. At the close soldier W.C. Jessee blew "Taps".

This was the first memorial service performed by the American Legion members. Since then it has been a tradition, each year, for the legion to have a service and firing squad at the cemetery on Memorial Day. They also furnish a firing squad for any veteran's funeral whose family requests it. Also each year the veterans graves are decorated on Memorial Day with an American Flag posted on each grave.

THE AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

On Saturday, April 5, 1922, a meeting was held in the

I.O.O.F. hall to organize an American Legion Auxilliary. A temporary organization was established and resolutions were adopted to organize. The Auxilliary was organized on May 7, 1922. Officers elected were: President Mrs. E.E. Holston, Vice President Mrs. George Lawson, Sec.-Treas. Miss Mabel Hyde, Chaplain Mrs. Amanda Jessee, and Historian Miss Eva Heald. There were twenty-six charter members. I do not have the information as to when this was discontinued.

TWENTY-TWO CLUB

The Goff Twenty Two Club was organized on December 20, 1904. The club was organized for a community accident and health insurance through twenty-two such clubs. It was the idea of Charley Lockname of Wetmore to start the clubs. In the first fifteen years from 1904 to 1919, the club paid out \$740 in benefits at an annual cost to each member of \$2.46. The benefit amounted to ten dollars per week for the members.

MODERN WOODMEN

The Goff Modern Woodmen of America was active in 1924. The Woodmen were one of the strongest fraternal insurance companies in the world and furnished a necessary and beneficial insurance protection. In March 1924, they took in twenty new members and in 1925 they had over ninety members. This insurance, if paid up, is still good today.



BASEBALL

MAST FIELD—GOFF

SUNDAY, JULY 29TH

"PLAY BALL" at 2:30 p. m. Prompt

Mayetta Indians vs. Goff.

Now comes that old time baseball crew of Indians from Mayetta. They have as classy a fielding team as you will see any where, and have added much new talent to their team. Their battery is going to be a good one. Iro Grinnell will do their pitching and Skinny Dunton will receive for them. Goff's regular lineup will be in the field. Emil "Dutch" Thomsen will assist Dunton in pitching for Goff, with Jenkins behind the bat. This is bound to be a ball game, as the visitors are hoping to bring the best they can find in Jackson county.

Admission 35c
Children Under 12 Free

BASEBALL

On June 13, 1913, a meeting was held by local businessmen and ball players at the City Hall and it was decided to enter the Central Branch Baseball Association. The plan of the league was one game a week playing at home every two weeks. The players were to be strictly all home

men. At that time they played west of town on the north side of the road. It was called Henery's Park or Field.

The Goff Baseball Club was organized August 1919. On June 12, 1920, the Goff team played Frankfort and won by a score of seven to six. Nearly 500 people were there and at that time the team was called the "Goff Greys". On April 6, 1922, a Northeast Kansas Baseball League was formed. The Goff team became part of that league. In 1924, the club cancelled all their games and quit or "blew up". C.K. Simon agreed to manage the team and scheduled a game against Frankfort. The new club was organized in July 1924, with D.F. "Burt" Dicks as manager.

Goff had some very good baseball teams over the years with such people as Munsels, Bradleys, Jepsons, Bunton, Hendershots, Henereys, Simons, and many, many more. They had baseball teams here for many years and in more recent times, softball teams. They then played at the diamond on the east edge of town. This was also the football field during the high school years.

BASEBALL!

OPENING GAME!



Sunday, May 24

ONAGA vs. GOFF

Mast Ball Park—Goff

**Onaga has a salaried battery
Collier and Jenkins are the
Goff battery.**

Admission:

**Ladies 25c, Gents 35c
Children under 12, Free**

Plan to see the opening game

MUTUAL HELPERS

The Mutual Helpers Club was organized on August 9, 1922 at the home of Mrs. Chas. Hooper. The first meeting was held August 24th at the home of Mrs. John Butts. The subject was the "Home" and Mrs. Patton gave a humerous selection on "Home, the Best Place of All".

The club was composed of ladies from the country.

HILL TOP PIG CLUB

On May 23, 1921 the Hill Top Pig Club was organized with Milburn Atkins as president. Each member fed one or more pigs for a four month period and then exhibited them at the county fair. This club started with nine members. Cloris Molineux, of this club, won first place honors in the fat pig class at the fair. The boys continued feeding until October to see who would be able to produce the most pork.

BASEBALL
SUNDAY, MAY 31

SOLDIER
-VS-
GOFF

HENRY PARK
Game Called at 3 O'clock
ADMISSION 15c-25c

BASEBALL!
HORTON vs. GOFF

Batteries:

**Horton — "Spot" Barnes,
"Lefty" Nelson and Willett.**

**Goff — "Strawberry" Jep-
son, "Wink" Collier and
Jenkins.**

**Plenty of protected parking
space for your auto.**

**Prices are but 35c for Gents,
15c for Ladies, with Child-
ren under 12 Free.**

**Game will start at 2:30 p. m.
GOFF, SUNDAY, AUG. 23**

BAND

A musical organization was formed in December 1921. Prof. Alois Phillips was director, Miss Pike, assistant director, E.E. Holston president, W.C. Jessee sec.-treas., and Ivalee Atkins librarian. They were called the "Goff Concert Orchestra". Then in April 1929, a Goff Band was organized again, with the help of the band leader from Onāga. This band lasted for a number of years.



The Goff Band, taken about 1929

THE MASONIC LODGE

The Goff Lodge was organized in the summer of 1921 with O.V. Collins as Master and A.H. Fitzwater as Secretary. There were nearly thirty charter members. In February 1922, a charter was granted for the Masonic Lodge in Goff. A.P. Lapham Sr., District Deputy Grandmaster acting in capacity as Special Deputy Grand Master, along with his staff from the Wetmore Lodge, came to Goff and constituted, consecrated and dedicatd the Goff Lodge AF and AM No. 430 on March 7, 1922.

On October 2, 1923, the district meeting of the masonic Lodge in the eleventh district was held at the Goff Lodge. This

included the lodges of Whiting, Netawaka, Wetmore, Corning, Centralia, and Goff. There were about one hundred members attending. In later years the lodge was consolidated with the Wetmore lodge and presently meet here in their hall, the old Nazarene church building. (See picture shown under *Churches*).

EASTERN STAR

A meeting was held on May 12, 1922 and a temporary organization of the Eastern Star was organized. Officers elected were: Worthy Matron, Mrs. E.E. Holston; Associate Matron, Mrs. Charlie Hooper; Worthy Patron, T.C. Ellis; Conductress, Mrs. Harry Gray; Associate Conductress, Mrs. G.W. Sourk; Secretary, Mrs. V. Hart; and Treasurer, Mrs. L.A. Corwin. They held their meetings in the I.O.O.F. hall. The Order of Eastern Star charter was installed officially on January 24, 1923 by Mrs. Mabel Woodford from Atchison, Grand Ester of the Kansas Grand Lodge. They presently hold their meetings in the Masonic hall.

REBECCA LODGE

The Goff Rebecca Lodge No. 684 was installed at the I.O.O.F. hall in Goff on March 31, 1923. Mrs. Zylpha Dix of Hutchison of the State Assembly Association of the I.O.O.F. did the installing. The officers of the Wetmore Lodge were present and conferred degrees. There was a total of thirty members admitted to the new lodge.

Officers were: Noble Grand, Mrs. Nick Henery; Vice Grand, Mrs. Millie Okeson; Secretary, Mrs. E.C. Mahler; Treasurer, Miss Edith Sharpe; and District Deputy, B. A. Johnstone. On June 6, they became a fully accredited lodge. They continued to hold their meetings in the I.O.O.F. hall until the lodge was closed.

ANTI HORSE THIEF ASSN.

Goff had an Anti Horse Thief Association at one time in the early days. This organization was formed just after the Civil War to protect law abiding people against those banded together to

plunder the honest people. The national order consisted of officers and delegates from state associations and local associations. Anyone over twenty-one was an eligible member. Widows of members received the protection which their husbands were entitled to when they were living. Other women became protected members by paying dues. They held their meetings in the G.A.R. building which was just east of the present bank.

WOMANS CLUB

A number of ladies met on November 8, 1933 for the purpose of organizing a Woman's Study Club. The organization was completed at the meeting and it was voted to Federate. At a special meeting of the Goff Woman's Club, the club colors were chosen to be yellow and the flower the chrysanthemum. The completion of the organization was handled by Mrs. H.P. Cawood from Wetmore. They presently hold their meetings in individual club member's homes.

WORLD WAR I ORGANIZATIONS

I am listing a few of the many organizations that were formed as a direct result of the first World War.

During the first World War the high school had an organization called the "Victory Girls and Victory Boys".

On August 1, 1917, the Goff branch of the Nemaha County Red Cross was formed. By November 1919, the Red Cross had one hundred seventy two members here.

The Goff Canning Club was organized on March 21, 1917. This club was formed for the purpose of preserving food when World War I came along. In the 1917 season, its members canned 5,000 quarts of fruit, 3,500 quarts of vegetables, 50 quarts of soups and meats, and 700 quarts of preserves. There were one hundred fifty members that year.

In May 1918, the "Four Minute Men" was organized. This was a nationwide plan to give information direct to the people from the U.S. Government during the war. The work consisted of giving a four minute speech at each picture show.

CHURCH ORGANIZATIONS

The Christian Church ladies had an organization known as the Women's Christian Temperance Union. They had the Delta Sigma Sunday School class.

The Methodist Church ladies have an organization known as the Women's Society of Christian Service, W.S.C.S. This was organized in 1941 at a meeting called by Rev. John Taylor. The first meeting was held September 11, 1941. The first officers were: Mrs. Ward Gates, president; Mrs. Vernon Houts, vice president; Mrs. A.H. Fitzwater, secretary; and Mrs. Eva Stark, treasurer. This organization is still active as of this date. They have a youth organization known as the Youth Fellowship.

4-H

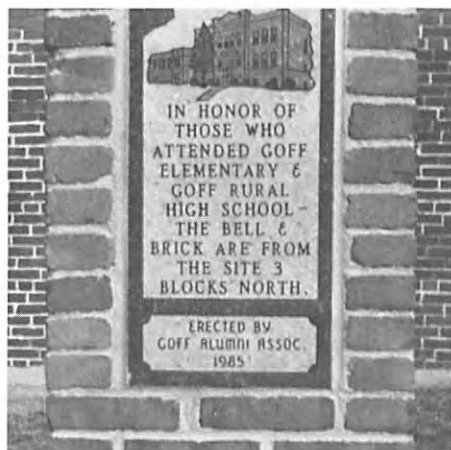
At a meeting held at the Goff school building on March 21, 1938, a 4-H Club was organized. The club was named "Jolly Golfers". Officers elected were: Anna Mae Gold, president; Henry Massek, vice president; Kenneth Crandall, sec.-treas.; Ben Hart, reporter.

HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI

The alumni of Goff High School organized with about forty charter members. Officers for the meeting on May 18, 1920 were: President, W.C. Jessee, Class of 1914; Vice President, R.H. Hunt, Class of 1918; Secretary, Anna Groves, Class of 1919; Treasurer, Ray Springer, Class of 1915. The first meeting was held in the I.O.O.F. hall with the banquet served by the Ladies Union of the Associated Church. Later the meetings were moved to the school auditorium where they were held until the school was closed. They are presently held at the City Hall building which was the I.O.O.F. hall when the Alumni was organized. The Alumni Association had the old school bell mounted in front of the City Hall after the schoolhouse was torn down.



Mounting the school bell in front of the City Hall in 1985. Pictured are Gerald Stallbaumer on top and Roy Bell, left.



Plaque mounted in base of school bell.

SOME OTHERS

Here I am listing a few of the organizations that were in or around Goff at one time or another.

The Home Guard was organized in Goff on August 19,

1917 at the I.O.O.F. hall. These organizations were formed in all progressive communities to promote clean-up and paint-up and make the city a better place to live.

There was an embroidery club here in July 1918. Knitting then took the place of embroidery.

On July 6, 1917, the Goff Lodge of the Ancient Order of United Workman was organized.

The Goff Athletic Club was organized in April 1922 by a

Don't miss the "Dip Supper" sponsored by the Rebekah Lodge in the Banquet Room of the Goff Library, next Wednesday evening, Oct. 29th, starting at 5:30.—Adv.

number of the Legion boys.

This club was formed for some friendly boxing and wrestling.

The K.Y.J. Farm Bureau unit was organized at the home of Mrs. Ward Sourk on May 14, 1937. Officers were elected and the club was organized under the direction of LeVesta Davis.

There was a Jolly Jokers club northwest of town. They met at the home of Mrs. Bob Burkholder on April 23, 1930 and quilted.

There was a Ladies Jawhawker Club here in 1919.

The Jewel Camp Royal Neighbors of America Lodge No. 776 was organized in Goff in 1911.

There was a Goff Five Hundred Club here in 1920. This club consisted of the members playing the card game of Five Hundred. They usually had refreshments afterwards and sometimes had a dance.

In 1921, the Goff-Corning Married Folks Dancing Club held dances bi-weekly.

Starting in the early 1920s, Goff had a bridge club here. On February 18, 1931, they had a bridge tournament with Wetmore which ended in a tie.

There was a Busy Bee Club here in the thirties and also the Home Study Club and Neighborly Club.

The Friendship Club met at the home of Mrs. Geraldine Ewing on June 27, 1928. This club was composed of town

ladies and had twenty-one members then.

A Boy Scouts organization was formed in 1927. Their headquarters was in the cabin in Reverend Cook's yard.

In October 1925, a Campfire Girls group was organized with Mrs. C.C. Holmes, wife of the school superintendent, as the guardian. Its purpose was to preserve a girl's interest in her home, her community and her country.

LIONS CLUB

The Lions Club of Goff was chartered on April 23, 1951 with Reverend Jim Parker as the first president. They had twenty-eight charter members.

They held their meetings in the restaurant in the Commercial Hotel in the beginning. Later they met in the Fellowship hall of the Methodist Church then moved to the City Hall where they still meet.

They remodeled the City Hall by fixing up the upstairs with a hardwood floor and particle board on the walls. Then they remodeled the kitchen in the basement, or downstairs. They knocked out the wall of the old kitchen and furnace room, dug out the dirt and concrete and wheeled it out the door to a truck.

They then built a larger kitchen and modernized it like it is today. Over the years they have made other improvements to the downstairs of the hall.

They also laid a new tile floor in the Methodist Church, lighted the ball field and many other projects. It was the Lions Club that, through the hard work of

many members, was responsible for the forming of the Nemaha County Fire District No. 1 in Goff in 1963.

In 1953 they sponsored the first July 4th, Independence



— IN OUR BINS AND READY FOR YOU —
ILLINOIS — SOUTHERN KANSAS
AND BRIQUETTES

Friend & Holston
LUMBER & COAL E. E. Holston, Mgr.
PHONE 71 GOFF, KANSAS

Day celebration on the streets of town. It has since been moved to the Handley Park on the south side of the highway. There are presently twenty-one members in the club.

CAMPING CLUB

The Nemaha Nomads Camping Club was organized in July 1975. Robert Collins, who was quite active in getting it started, was the first president. At first, due to the number of potential members, membership was limited to within a ten-mile radius of Goff. Then later, in about 1977, they built a campground, complete with electricity and water, for their home base. It is called "Oak Hills" and is located on the Melvin Swart farm one mile east and one mile south of town.

1990 BUSINESSES

First National Bank

Post Office

White Barn II Furniture Refinishing

Henry Brothers Service Station

E & L Service and Grocery

D & J Cafe

Liquor Store

Henry Brothers Brome Seed Plant and Elevator

Barbershop

Beauty Shop

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1966 CENSUS

— Corporate Limits

COUNTY ROAD
STO. NENECA

COMPASS

DENTON'S

ADD

FOURTH

ORIGINA

ST. THIRD

WEST

ST. STAHL

ST. ABBOTT

Kansas Highway
No. 9

PLAT
GOFF, KANSAS

NEMAH COUNTY

Scale 1" = 100'

CORPORATE LIMITS

LR P

D

C

B

FIRST

ST.

ST. CENTRAL

ST. BRANCH

167-642



BIRDS EYE VIEW, GOFF